

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 1-51

March 5, 1951

UNFAVORABLE WEATHER REDUCES WORLD RICE CROP

Despite an increase in the acreage planted to rice, present prospects indicate the world rice crop of 1950-51 (August-July) will show little or no change from the preceding year's harvest, according to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. World production is estimated at approximately 340,000 million pounds of rough rice, or about the same as in 1949-50. Adverse weather in some areas reduced the harvest below early season expectations.

World growers planted the largest rice acreage on record. The 1950-51 acreage is estimated at 229 million acres, or 3 million acres more than in the preceding year. This is a substantial increase - possibly 9 percent - from the acreage devoted to rice before World War II. The acreage increased in 1950-51 in all the continents except North and South America. Production by continents shows gains from a year earlier, however, only in Europe and Oceania.

Asia's rice crop, representing 92 percent of the world total, is estimated at 314,000 million pounds, or about the same as in 1949-50. This is less than the prewar average production. Most of the estimated increase in this year's rice acreage occurred in Asia. It was in the Far East, however, that a combination of droughts and floods caused severe losses in this season's harvest.

Production is reported to have declined in India, Indochina, Ceylon, Korea, the Malayan Federation, and the Philippine Republic. While China's rice crop is larger than last season's extremely poor harvest, it is believed to be below prewar. Unfavorable weather in that country also reduced the crop from the first estimate. There were production gains in Formosa, Manchuria, Japan, and Pakistan.

The Indian Government has not yet released an estimate of the 1950-51 rice harvest, but indications are that production will be smaller than in 1949-50. A record acreage was planted, possibly an increase of nearly 2 percent, but serious weather setbacks resulted in substantial crop losses in some areas, particularly in northeastern India.

Rice production goals in the Philippines and Ceylon were not attained because of unfavorable weather conditions. Although the acreage of the Philippines increased 5 percent, damage from typhoons prevented a corresponding

Continent and country	Acreage				Yield per acre				Production			
	Average		Average		Average		Average		Average		Average	
	1935-36 to 1940-41	1948-49	1949-50 to 1950-51	1950-51 to 1955-56	1948-49	1949-50 to 1950-51	1950-51 to 1955-56	1955-56 to 1960-61	1948-49	1949-50 to 1950-51	1950-51 to 1955-56	1955-56 to 1960-61
NORTH AMERICA												
El Salvador.....	26	39	31	37	1,404	1,800	1,635	1,721	36.2	63.2	70.2	50.7
Mexico.....	96	202	267	292	1,547	1,778	1,888	1,721	182.8	239.8	399.1	497.9
Guatemala.....	96	134	141	141	1,320	1,240	1,250	1,250	72.0	104.3	166.1	176.2
United States.....	1,004	1,338	1,840	1,608	2,046	2,449	2,215	2,361	2,243.3	2,738.2	3,827.5	4,074.7
Cuba.....	45	59	120	125	1,035	1,098	1,117	1,100	43.4	71.4	135.0	134.0
Dominican Republic.....	80	115	108	113	1,062	1,076	1,220	1,200	85.0	107.7	123.7	131.8
Total.....	1,422	1,939	2,733	2,541	1,404	1,800	1,635	1,721	2,243.3	2,738.2	3,827.5	4,074.7
EUROPE												
Bulgaria.....	19	-	-	-	2,361	-	-	-	46.8	66.1	-	-
France.....	1	10	20	25	1,600	2,200	2,535	3,528	1.4	1.6	22.0	50.7
Greece.....	5	9	19	25	1,840	2,100	2,463	2,820	9.2	6.3	19.8	46.8
Italy.....	362	352	326	371	4,677	4,480	4,565	4,457	1,692.9	1,707.0	1,543.2	1,488.1
Portugal.....	47	67	70	122	2,895	3,013	2,441	2,443	152.9	170.8	201.9	170.9
Spain.....	110	137	142	143	4,336	3,782	4,280	4,699	477.0	522.0	518.1	607.8
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.).....	554	648	659	774	1,404	1,800	1,635	1,721	2,243.3	2,738.2	3,827.5	4,074.7
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	384	-	-	-	1,901	-	-	-	730.1	697.5	-	-
ASIA												
Iran.....	534	544	544	550	1,566	1,638	1,499	1,784	836.0	950.1	771.5	815.7
Iraq.....	392	431	-	525	1,883	1,130	-	1,071	902.9	487.2	661.4	771.6
Turkey.....	78	64	64	99	2,754	2,662	1,895	1,737	214.8	175.7	132.3	127.7
Burma.....	12,671	9,921	9,191	9,181	1,238	1,162	1,240	1,242	15,683.3	12,375.0	10,702.0	11,400.0
China.....	48,853	45,000	45,631	46,000	2,259	2,200	2,150	-	1,410,372.0	99,000.0	106,200.0	98,100.0
Formosa.....	1,616	1,782	1,819	-	2,387	2,120	2,034	-	3,856.7	3,862.7	3,375.0	3,700.0
Manchuria.....	782	975	850	850	1,585	1,585	-	1,800.0	3,856.7	1,545.1	1,000.0	800.0
Indochina.....	14,306	13,500	12,000	11,250	1,006	987	1,012	989	14,396.0	12,825.0	12,825.0	12,150.0
India - reporting.....	-	70,275	71,660	73,000	-	1,040	1,669	-	-	-	-	-
India - non-reporting.....	-	-	1,313	1,300	-	1,555	1,555	-	-	-	2,041.3	2,041.3
Total Asia.....	(62,591)	(64,788)	(72,973)	(74,300)	1,194	1,137	1,058	-	(74,738.0)	(73,646.0)	(75,102.3)	(78,630.3)

ASIA (Continued)														
Japan.....	7,862:	7,653:	7,850:	7,880:	7,900:	3,408:	3,267:	3,368:	3,264:	3,350:	26,793.1:	25,003.9:	26,438.0:	25,722.8:
Korea.....	3,838:	3,601.6/	2,748.6/	2,580:	-	2,295:	2,269:	2,826:	2,649:	-	8,809.3:	8,172.0:	7,764.9:	6,834.5:
Malayan Federation.....	746:	790:	907:	920:	-	1,635:	1,424:	1,204:	1,204:	-	1,219.6:	1,125.0:	1,092.2:	1,514.9:
Java and Madura.....	9,794:	9,330:	9,110:	9,200:	-	1,439:	1,468:	1,456:	1,446:	-	14,091.5:	13,700.9:	13,260.0:	13,300.0:
Pakistan.....	18,706:	20,605:	21,545:	21,712:	22,600.7/	1,301:	1,227:	1,314:	1,257:	1,283:	24,339.8:	25,274.3:	28,319.8:	27,368.1:
Philippine Republic.....	4,852:	5,265:	5,347:	5,471:	5,745:	973:	940:	1,027:	1,050:	979:	4,719.5:	4,950.0:	5,492.2:	5,745.2:
Thailand g/.....	7,088:	6,750:	8,200:	9,100:	9,100:	1,353:	1,333:	1,476:	1,484:	1,484:	9,588.5:	9,000.0:	12,100.0:	13,500.0:
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 5/.....	201,216:	198,903:	208,366:	209,422:	212,213:	-	-	-	-	-	319,961.9:	301,559.0:	318,718.1:	313,861.0:
SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina.....	52:	88:	105:	107:	130:	2,592:	2,891:	2,549:	2,848:	2,538:	140.0:	254.4:	267.6:	304.7:
Brazil.....	2,323:	3,042:	4,300:	4,760:	4,500:	1,287:	1,409:	1,302:	1,471:	1,333:	2,989.1:	4,285.7:	5,600.0:	7,000.0:
British Guiana.....	70:	83:	95:	96:	-	2,289:	2,199:	2,303:	-	160.2:	182.5:	210.1:	221.1:	-
Chile.....	13:	68:	60:	66:	62:	3,515:	3,416:	3,065:	2,808:	2,984:	45.7:	232.3:	183.9:	185.3:
Colombia.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141.4:	267.6:	490.0:	530.0:
Ecuador.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	154.7:	254.2:	372.6:	210.6:
Paraguay.....	5:	15:	16:	22:	27:	1,760:	1,760:	1,931:	1,805:	1,796:	8.8:	26.4:	30.9:	39.7:
Peru.....	107:	137:	115:	62:	125:	1,925:	2,206:	2,916:	2,903:	3,080:	206.0:	302.2:	335.3:	180.0:
Surinam.....	37:	33:	45:	40:	44:	2,070:	2,545:	2,836:	2,772:	2,555:	76.6:	84.0:	127.6:	110.9:
Uruguay.....	13:	13:	36:	34:	-	2,992:	2,862:	2,753:	2,594:	-	38.9:	37.2:	99.1:	88.2:
Total.....	2,914:	3,999:	5,478:	5,793:	5,720:	-	-	-	-	-	3,989.8:	5,964.2:	7,787.3:	8,939.4:
AFRICA														
Sierra Leone.....	346:	-	781:	-	-	1,192:	-	-	-	-	412.3:	-	604.1:	-
Egypt.....	463:	600:	816:	830:	830:	3,233:	2,704:	3,534:	3,102:	3,133:	1,496.8:	1,622.2:	2,883.4:	2,575.0:
French West Africa.....	1,562:	1,860:	-	-	-	3/ 603:	599:	-	-	-	942.1:	1,111.5:	-	-
Madagascar.....	1,195:	1,227:	1,421:	1,388:	-	1,274:	1,278:	1,122:	1,192:	-	1,522.0:	1,568.3:	1,594.5:	1,654.3:
Total.....	4,326:	5,423:	7,198:	7,283:	7,359:	-	-	-	-	-	5,043.4:	5,835.7:	8,095.5:	8,161.0:
OCEANIA														
Australia.....	23:	30:	31:	36:	40:	4,143:	3,703:	3,710:	4,481:	4,200:	95.3:	111.3:	115.0:	161.3:
Fiji.....	10:	22:	35:	-	-	1,940:	2,059:	1,637:	-	-	19.4:	45.3:	58.0:	-
Total.....	40:	72:	99:	104:	107:	-	-	-	-	-	121.7:	176.6:	210.1:	253.4:
World total 5/.....	210,848:	211,422:	224,807:	226,418:	229,141:	-	-	-	-	-	334,957.0:	320,308.0:	343,015.0:	337,829.0:

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 5-year average. 4/ Average 1931-37. 5/ A tentative estimate of India's rice acreage and production from 1935-36 to 1944-45 is included to compute world acreage and production for these years, pending receipt of official Indian statistics as revised to conform with the recent change in the basis of crop reporting. 6/ South Korea only. In the 1935-39 period, production averaged about 6,750 million pounds annually. 7/ Average 1936-37 to 1939-40. 8/ Postwar data subject to revision.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

rise in production, which is forecast at only slightly less than in 1949-50, when high yields per acre were produced.

Intentions to plant called for a substantial increase in Ceylon's rice acreage, but dry weather prevented all the planned acreage from being sown. Ceylon's production therefore is estimated at around 600 million pounds compared with approximately 700 million pounds in 1949-50.

Formosa harvested a record rice crop and a large outturn was gathered in Japan. Estimates of Pakistan's rice acreage show a gain of 4 percent from 1949-50 and weather conditions have been reported favorable for growing and harvesting. The weather was favorable for rice production in South Korea, but war damage is estimated to have resulted in some decrease from the 1949 crop.

Preliminary estimates of the rice acreage and production of the surplus region, Thailand, Burma, and Indochina, indicate the total production may not vary greatly from 1949-50. An exception to this may have occurred in Indochina (Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos) where the acreage may have decreased to some extent because of the inability to export last year's surplus.

Thailand's harvest is forecast at least as large as the preceding year's bumper crop, which according to the latest official estimate, was revised upward to 13,500 million pounds, or 1,650 million pounds more than the previous estimate. Since that country's acreage has increased steadily since the war, Thailand's is the only crop of this surplus area which is now above the prewar average.

The official estimate of Burma's rice production is not yet available. The first official acreage estimate recorded a 1950-51 acreage of 9,181,000 acres to be harvested, or about the same as the 1949-50 acreage of 9,191,000 acres. Assuming about average yields per acre, Burma would have produced 11,400 million pounds of rough rice in these years. With weather conditions permitting good yields, larger crops than these tentative estimates may have been harvested in 1949-50 and 1950-51.

European countries are continuing to expand the production of rice. That continent's harvests in early postwar years showed a pronounced drop compared with prewar, but exceeded the prewar average for the first time in 1947, and have increased rapidly in succeeding years. The estimate of total production in 1950 was 15 percent larger than in 1949, and 22 percent more than before the war. Crop increases occurred in nearly all producing countries, including Italy, France, Greece, Portugal, and Spain.

The total rice acreage and production of the Western Hemisphere for 1950-51 are approximately double those of prewar. A slight decline in both acreage and production is noted compared with a year earlier.

The acreage decline in North America was caused primarily by a 13-percent decrease in the United States which harvests nearly two-thirds of the total

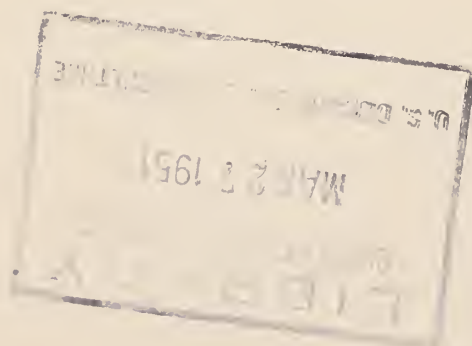
acreage of the Continent. Higher-than-average per acre yields, however, resulted in a United States crop only 7 percent less than last year.

The rice acreage increased 4 percent in the other countries of North America. The production showed a gain of 12 percent from the preceding year, and was more than double the prewar output. The largest gains are noted in Mexico, Panama, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti, and increases occurred also in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, and Cuba.

A preliminary estimate of the 1950-51 rice acreage of South American countries, most of which is yet to be harvested, indicates about a 1-percent decrease from 1949-50. Production may decline to a greater extent, however, primarily because of a reduction in the yield per acre from Brazil's very good crop of 1949-50.

Due principally to acreage increases, the production in most other rice areas of South America is expected to show gains from 1949-50. The largest acreage increases occurred in Argentina, Ecuador, Peru, and Paraguay, approximating 21, 43, 102, and 23 percent, respectively, above the preceding year. The acreage of Ecuador and Peru is restored to the relatively high level of 2 years ago, since last year the acreage of these countries, particularly Peru, was reduced severely by drought.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.





FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 2-51

March 19, 1951

BRAZILIAN RICE CROP SMALLER IN 1950-51 ^{1/}

The 1950-51 rice acreage of Brazil, planted mainly in September and October and now about ready for harvest, may approximate 4,500,000 acres, or 5 percent less than the preceding year's record of 4,760,000 acres, according to preliminary estimates of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Primarily because of a decline in rice prices at the time of planting, growers reduced the acreage sown to rice.

The acreage in the central States of Sao Paulo, Minas Gerais, and Goiaz where there was a surplus in 1950 reportedly was reduced as much as 15 to 20 percent from last year. Price declines in north Brazil caused some of the land in rice the previous year to be planted to other crops. Some areas of Minas Gerais have increases in rice, and the acreage of Rio Grande do Sul is slightly larger than in 1949-50.

BRAZIL: Production of rough rice by States, averages 1936-45, annual 1948-51

State	Average		1948	1949 ^{1/}	1950 ^{1/}	1951 ^{1/}
	1936-40	1941-45				
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Sao Paulo	864	1,232	1,836	1,550	2,253	1,530
Rio Grande do Sul . .	639	840	1,137	1,208	1,312	1,285
Minas Gerais	760	949	1,173	1,243	1,459	1,585
Goiatz	228	400	353	419	595	463
Parana	30	101	238	183	245	208
Santa Catarina . . .	82	147	179	160	144	126
Maranhao	58	103	160	208	248	198
Rio de Janeiro . . .	92	115	86	99	134	110
Piaui	21	35	60	64	71	71
Ceara	28	37	76	102	99	99
Matto Grasso	36	92	108	121	132	112
Others	151	235	225	243	308	213
Total	2,989	4,286	5,631	5,600	7,000	6,000

^{1/} Compiled from official and unofficial estimates (preliminary).

Compiled from official statistics, except as noted.

^{1/} Based on a report from Alexander L. Peaslee, American Vice Consul, Porto Alegre.

Weather during the growing season generally has been favorable for the production of rice. The crop therefore is estimated tentatively at 6,000 million pounds of rough rice compared with 7,000 million pounds a year earlier, when the yields per acre were very good in most of the areas of production. The estimate of the new crop is double the prewar average (1936-40), and exceeds also the high wartime average production by a substantial margin.

Rice availabilities for export from Brazil in 1951 are estimated at between 200 and 400 million pounds in terms of milled rice. This estimate includes carry-over stocks from the 1949-50 crop as well as a sizable volume of old-crop rice sold but unshipped at the end of 1950.

BRAZIL: Rice production and exports,
averages 1936-45, annual 1946-51 1/

Year	Acreage	Yield per acre	Production in terms of Rough	Production in terms of milled	Exports	Production minus exports
	1,000 Acres	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Average:						
1936-40	2,323	1,287	2,989.1	1,943	110	1,833
1941-45	3,042	1,409	4,285.7	2,786	83	2,703
Annual:						
1946	4,067	1,496	6,082.5	3,954	335	3,619
1947	4,080	1,403	5,724.0	3,721	546	3,175
1948	4,106	1,371	5,631.3	3,660	456	3,204
1949 2/	4,300	1,302	5,600.0	3,640	2	3,638
1950 2/	4,760	1,471	7,000.0	4,550	200	4,350
1951 2/	4,500	1,333	6,000.0	3,900	-	-

1/ Rough rice in production and where occurring in trade is converted to terms of milled at 65 percent.

2/ Unofficial estimates (preliminary).

Compiled from official statistics, except as noted.

Official statistics are not yet available showing rice exports from Brazil in 1950. They are estimated, however, in round numbers at 200 million pounds of milled rice. Data from incomplete statistics show that nearly one-half of the total was shipped from the State of Sao Paulo. Exports of significance were shipped from that State before only in 1946, the year of previous record production in that area. From January through November 1950 export statistics of the port of Santos, Sao Paulo, are recorded for 85 million pounds to the following countries (million pounds): French West Africa, 30; Portugal, 24; England, 20; Africa, 7; and others, 4. Exports during 1950 from the State of Rio Grande do Sul were reported at 122 million pounds as follows (million pounds): Great Britain, 94; Canada, 11; Peru, 11; Switzerland, 5; and others, 1.

The volume of rice to be exported from Brazil during 1951 depends largely on the Governmental policy followed in connection with maintaining over-all food supplies for consumption within Brazil. Rice exports were suspended at least temporarily on December 11, 1950, when President Dutra released an order to the Bank of Brazil not to permit barter arrangements for sales concluded after that date. This regulation is expected to be revoked unless the current harvest is smaller than expected or world conditions arise under which the policy of withholding supplies to ensure domestic consumption is maintained.

Brazilian rice prices declined in 1950 as soon as it became apparent that favorable weather conditions would result in the harvesting of a bumper crop. Prices began to drop in January and continued to decrease during the year. The wholesale price for Japanese (short-grain) rice first grade at Porto Alegre declined from \$8.91 per 100 pounds in January to \$6.25 in June, and rose slightly to \$7.13 per 100 pounds in August, about the time that plans were formulated for the planting of the new crop. Long-grain (Agulha) rice in August sold at \$8.15 per 100 pounds compared with \$10.45 per 100 pounds in January, and with \$10.76 per 100 pounds in the corresponding month of a year earlier.

PORTO ALEGRE: Wholesale prices of first-grade
milled rice per 100 pounds, 1949 and 1950

Month	Japanese (Short-grain)		Blue Rose (Short-grain)		Agulha (Long-grain)	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
January	8.88	8.91	9.89	9.63	11.05	10.45
February	9.06	8.48	9.89	8.58	11.68	11.00
March	8.94	7.58	9.68	7.71	11.30	9.23
April	8.37	6.65	9.59	6.63	11.20	8.07
May	7.71	6.75	9.08	7.20	11.02	6.66
June	7.19	6.25	unquoted	6.72	10.06	6.66
July	7.86	6.49	9.34	6.70	10.62	6.95
August	8.19	<u>1/</u> 7.13	9.67	<u>1/</u> 7.38	10.76	<u>1/</u> 8.15
September	8.48	<u>1/</u> 7.24	10.29	<u>1/</u> 7.33	11.51	<u>1/</u> 8.44
October	8.88	6.98	10.70	7.15	11.91	8.38
November	8.96	6.57	10.13	6.79	11.20	7.62
December	8.74	6.50	9.59	7.21	11.20	7.16

1/ Revised.

Compiled from consular reports.

Rio Grande do Sul

The 1950-51 rice harvest of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil's main rice-exporting State, may be slightly less than last year. A record acreage was planted, estimated tentatively at 620 million acres compared with

597,000 acres in 1949-50. Assuming average weather conditions until harvest in March, about 1,285 million pounds of rough rice would be produced, compared with 1,310 million in 1949-50, and 1,200 million pounds in 1948-49.

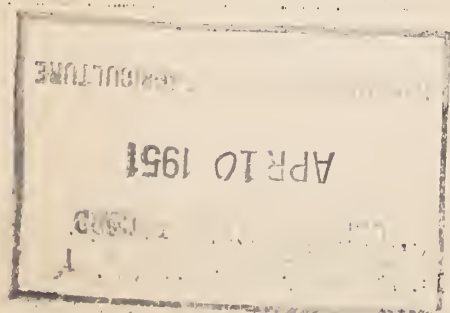
The extent of the decrease in the 1950-51 crop of central Brazil will determine to a great degree the quantity available for export in 1951 to foreign countries from the State of Rio Grande do Sul. Because of the large harvest in the central States, shipments to other Brazil in 1950 were 275 million pounds less than in the year before. A probable rise in shipments to these areas again in 1951, however, may reduce the exportable supplies for foreign countries.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL: Rice shipments to
Brazilian States, 1950 with comparisons

State	Average : 1936-40	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Federal District	136	142	113)	280	192	174
Rio de Janeiro	9	21	53)			
Sao Paulo	84	0	0	1/ 53	81	20
Parana	12	1	0	1/ 2/	2/	2/
Bahia	7	21	16	17	16	16
Pernambuco	9	21	17	22	10	19
Railroad and truck		-	-	60	131	66
Others	13	30	36	45	193	52
Total shipments	270	236	235	477	623	347
Foreign exports	71	309	214	392	1	122
Shipments and exports	341	545	449	869	624	469

1/ Does not include 60 million pounds shipped to Sao Paulo and Parana by rail,
2/ Not separately reported.

Rio Grande do Sul Rice Institute.





FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 3-51

May 28, 1951

WORLD RICE CROP SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN LAST YEAR

World rice production in 1950-51 (August-July) is estimated at 342,000 million pounds of rough rice compared with 339,000 million pounds a year ago, in the third estimate of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. World acreage was the largest on record, but a decline in the average yields per harvested acre in some countries reduced the crop below early season expectations.

The estimated production of Asia exceeded slightly that of the preceding year, but was not so large as the postwar record attained in 1948-49. Production in Europe increased again, and Oceania's harvest also was larger compared with a year earlier. Smaller crops than in 1949-50 were harvested in North and South America.

Asia's harvest, representing 92 percent of the total, is estimated at 316,000 million pounds of rough rice compared with 313,000 million pounds in 1949-50. Production increases occurred in Burma, China, Taiwan, Japan, Indonesia, and Pakistan. Smaller crops were harvested in India, Korea, Malaya, and the Philippines.

The acreage planted to rice in India, including the reporting and non-reporting areas, is believed to have been slightly larger than last year's record. Such factors as the Assam earthquake, drought, and floods, however, caused a marked decline in the average yield per acre in that country. Pakistan also increased rice acreage, and production is believed to be around 4 percent larger than last year. The acreages of Japan and Taiwan increased slightly and favorable weather again permitted a corresponding gain in production. The combined harvest of Taiwan's two crops in 1950-51 is expected to set another record.

The total production of rice in the 3 exporting countries, Thailand, Burma, and Indochina, is believed to exceed that of the good harvest a year earlier. Thailand's acreage was large and weather conditions were favorable for another bumper crop. Although statistics regarding Burma's crop so far are not available, indications are that the acreage increased and weather conditions permitted the production of at least average yields per acre. Reports indicate that the total acreage of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos of Indochina decreased, but the yields per acre were better than in 1949-50. Production estimates for

ASIA (Continued)														
Japan.....	7,862:	7,653:	7,850:	7,880:	7,940:	3,408:	3,267:	3,368:	3,262:	3,330:	26,793.1:	25,003.9:	26,438.0:	25,701.6:
Korea.....	3,838:	3,601:	2,748:	2,580:	-	2,256:	2,270:	2,826:	2,649:	-	8,176.0:	8,176.0:	7,764.9:	6,834.5:
Malayan Federation.....	745:	790:	907:	931:	908:	1,634:	1,424:	1,204:	1,662:	1,514:	1,217.1:	1,125.0:	1,092.2:	1,546.9:
Java and Madura.....	9,794:	9,310:	9,110:	10,200:	-	1,442:	1,385:	1,455:	1,373:	-	14,126.0:	12,892.6:	13,260.0:	14,000.0:
Pakistan.....	18,706:	20,605:	21,545:	21,781:	22,300:	1,301:	1,227:	1,316:	1,257:	1,278:	24,339.8:	25,274.3:	28,346.7:	27,381.5:
Philippine Republic.....	4,852:	5,265:	5,347:	5,471:	5,700:	973:	940:	1,027:	1,050:	981:	4,719.5:	4,950.0:	5,492.2:	5,745.2:
Thailand 2/.....	7,088:	6,750:	8,200:	9,100:	9,100:	1,353:	1,333:	1,476:	1,484:	1,484:	9,588.5:	9,000.0:	12,100.0:	13,500.0:
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.).....	201,204:	198,857:	210,069:	212,563:	213,553:	-	-	-	-	-	319,825.1:	300,624.4:	321,098.2:	313,223.8:
SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina.....	52:	88:	105:	107:	112:	2,692:	2,891:	2,549:	2,689:	2,755:	140.0:	254.4:	267.6:	287.7:
Brazil.....	2,323:	3,042:	4,300:	4,760:	4,500:	1,287:	1,409:	1,302:	1,471:	1,467:	2,989.1:	4,285.8:	5,600.0:	7,000.0:
British Guiana.....	70:	83:	95:	100:	-	2,289:	2,199:	2,212:	2,416:	-	160.2:	182.5:	210.1:	241.6:
Chile.....	13:	68:	60:	66:	58:	3,515:	3,469:	3,065:	2,808:	1,847:	45.7:	235.9:	183.9:	185.3:
Colombia.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141.4:	267.6:	490.0:	530.0:
Ecuador.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	146.0:	254.2:	372.6:	211.5:
Paraguay.....	5:	15:	16:	22:	25:	1,760:	1,760:	1,931:	1,805:	1,764:	8.8:	26.4:	30.9:	39.7:
Peru.....	107:	137:	115:	62:	111:	1,897:	2,206:	2,916:	2,903:	2,973:	203.0:	302.2:	335.3:	180.0:
Surinam.....	37:	35:	45:	40:	44:	2,081:	2,306:	2,836:	2,772:	2,500:	77.0:	80.7:	127.6:	110.9:
Uruguay.....	13:	13:	36:	34:	35:	2,992:	2,862:	2,753:	2,591:	2,823:	38.9:	37.2:	99.1:	88.1:
Venezuela.....	2:	11:	30:	25:	50:	1,150:	1,127:	1,030:	1,084:	1,102:	2.3:	12.4:	30.9:	27.1:
Total.....	2,909:	4,001:	5,478:	5,797:	5,697:	-	-	-	-	-	3,978.3:	5,964.6:	7,787.3:	8,943.7:
AFRICA														
Egypt.....	463:	600:	816:	730:	727:	3,233:	2,704:	3,534:	3,536:	3,558:	1,496.8:	1,622.2:	2,883.4:	2,581.3:
French West Africa.....	3/	1,562:	1,860:	-	-	603:	598:	-	-	-	2/	942.1:	1,111.5:	-
Madagascar.....	1,207:	1,227:	1,388:	1,553:	-	1,157:	1,282:	1,192:	1,097:	-	1,396.8:	1,572.8:	1,654.3:	1,703.1:
Sierra Leone.....	346:	-	781:	-	-	1,192:	-	773:	-	-	412.3:	-	604.1:	-
Total.....	4,338:	5,423:	7,165:	7,337:	7,358:	-	-	-	-	-	4,925.6:	5,840.2:	8,155.3:	8,216.1:
OCEANIA														
Australia.....	23:	30:	31:	36:	38:	4,143:	3,703:	3,710:	4,414:	4,716:	95.3:	111.1:	115.0:	158.9:
Fiji.....	10:	22:	35:	-	-	1,940:	2,059:	1,657:	-	-	19.4:	45.3:	58.0:	-
Total.....	40:	72:	99:	104:	105:	-	-	-	-	-	121.7:	176.6:	210.1:	251.0:
World total.....	210,850:	211,315:	226,482:	229,626:	230,464:	-	-	-	-	-	334,776.5:	319,356.3:	345,437.8:	339,271.8:

World total, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 5-year average. 4/ Average 1931-37. 5/ The area formerly known as French Indochina is now comprised of the Kingdom of Laos, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the State of Vietnam. 6/ Total acreage and production of reporting and nonreporting areas. These statistics are subject to further revision. 7/ South Korea only. In the 1935-39 period, production in this area averaged about 6,750 million pounds annually. 8/ Average 1936-37 to 1939-40. 9/ Subject to revision.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

this region range between 11,000 and 13,000 million pounds of rough rice compared with 12,150 million pounds in the preceding year.

Indonesia's acreage increased and the crops now being harvested are in good condition. Although unfavorable weather in Malaya prevented the current harvest from reaching the high yields per acre of a year earlier, a near-record crop was produced. The Philippine and Ceylon harvests were not so large as in 1949-50 due to unfavorable weather.

Europe harvested a record rice crop from a record acreage for the fifth successive season. That continent's production of 2,900 million pounds showed a gain of 15 percent from the preceding year and 22 percent from the prewar (1935-39) average output. Crop increases occurred in all countries of production outside the Balkans. In France and Greece where the industry has expanded since the war, the combined production increased from 11 million pounds of rough rice during the prewar (1935-39) average to 172 million pounds in 1950.

The official estimates of acreage and production in Egypt are about the same as a year earlier. The acreage planted was above average and water supplies were sufficient to permit high yields per acre to be harvested for the third successive season. The acreage in Australia again increased and another record crop was produced.

The 1950-51 rice harvest of the Western Hemisphere declined slightly from the preceding year. A drop in North America's production is attributed to smaller acreage in the United States. Record acreages were planted in Mexico and Cuba and new record crops were harvested. Production increased also in Panama, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, but declined in Honduras and Guatemala.

The rice production of South America also is smaller than in 1949-50. Acreage declines in Brazil and Chile reduced the total acreage, although these decreases were offset partly by gains in all of the other countries. This is true especially in Peru, Ecuador, and Argentina. In general, good yields per acre were harvested. Brazil's acreage reduction is estimated at about 6 percent less than last year. Crop conditions were favorable again, however, particularly in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, and above-average yields per acre are expected to be nearly as high as in 1949-50. Production therefore is forecast also at about 6 percent less than last year.

Production increases in Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela were due to larger planted acreages and the harvesting of relatively high yields per acre. The 1951 output of Ecuador and Peru was considerably larger than that of a year earlier primarily because of the availability of sufficient water supplies compared with the prevalence of drought in the preceding year. Production in these countries, however, was less than the production of two years ago.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports of world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.



FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 4-51

September 5, 1951

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES - RICE

Rice Situation in Pakistan 1/

By Isom Deshotels
Marketing Specialist

Pakistan appeared in world trade as a significant exporter of rice for the first time in 1951. Exportable supplies during the year are estimated at more than 300,000 short tons, a considerable part of which represents carryover stocks from the harvest of the preceding year. Whether the country will continue to export significant quantities regularly will depend largely on the success or failure of the rice crop in the deficit area of East Pakistan, where 90 percent of the crop is grown.

Acreage and Production

The final estimate of the area under rice in Pakistan for 1950-51 is 22,329,000 acres, an increase of 2.5 percent over the 21,781,000 acres planted in 1949-50. Since the final forecast is not broken down by provinces, the second forecast, published February 10, 1951, is given in table 1 in order to indicate the approximate location of the 1950-51 rice crop. The February forecast does not include the summer crop of East Bengal harvested in April 1951; however, when 701,700 acres, the "normal" acreage for the summer crop, is added to the second forecast of 21,640,000 acres, there is comparatively little difference between the two forecasts.

1/ This circular is a preliminary report of one of the countries visited on a special survey of the rice situation in the Far East conducted in 1951, under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act, by Isom Deshotels, Marketing Specialist, Grain Division, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Mr. Deshotels acknowledges the help of the American Embassy at Karachi, and trade and other sources.

Table 1. - Pakistan: Second forecast of rice crop, 1949-50 and 1950-51

Provinces and States	Crop year (July-June)	
	1949-50	1950-51
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Provinces:		
Baluchistan.....	52	59
East Bengal:		
Autumn.....	4,530	5,245
Winter.....	13,958	14,031
Summer.....	-	-
Northwest Frontier Province	36	37
Punjab.....	819	829
Sind.....	1,288	1,369
Total.....	20,683	21,570
States:		
Bahawalpur.....	46	57
Khairpur.....	16	13
Total.....	62	70
Grand Total.....	20,745	21,640

Source: Government of Pakistan.

The production forecast for the 1950-51 crop is 9,113,000 short tons of milled rice (27,365 million pounds of rough rices) or about the same as the 9,119,000 tons (27,382 million pounds) reported for 1949-50.

East Bengal, East Pakistan's only province, is by far the most important rice-producing area in Pakistan. Its three rice crops derive their names from the season in which they are harvested, and are known as summer "boro," autumn "aus," and winter "aman." They are grown in different seasons, but are not in rotation on the same land.

Table 2. - East Pakistan: Normal acreage and yield and dates of planting and harvesting of rice crops

Crop	Acreage	Normal yield per acre (rough)	Sown	Transplanted	Harvested
	Acres	Pounds			
Autumn (aus)	5,490,500	1,347	March-April (broadcasted)	-	July-August
Winter (aman)	14,301,100	1,532	March-April June-(nursery)	July-August	November-December
Summer (boro)	701,700	1,680	November (nursery)	December-January	March-April

Source: Government of Pakistan.

There is a small area on which two crops are grown in the same year, but other crops more often than a second rice crop are grown in the rice paddies during the off season. Oilseed crop plantings follow the harvest of the autumn rice crop.

Pakistan has many schemes for increasing production. Sixty-nine schemes completed since partition have benefited 330,000 acres of rice-land in East Bengal. These irrigation, flood control, and drainage projects, are estimated to have added 95,000 tons to rice production.

The Gunti embankment - the largest of the schemes completed - is said to have made it possible to grow the aman, or winter crop, on 250 square miles of land where this crop could not be grown before.

One of the schemes is a 6 year plan designed to bring under cultivation an additional 6 million acres of land by 1956-57 and add 2.8 million short tons of grain to the present production.

Exports

Pakistan's exportable supplies of rice are produced mainly in the Province of Sind, Western Pakistan. This area is the source of the 1950-51 surplus placed at 170,000 tons and stocks of about 130,000 tons from the 1949-50 crop which are now being exported from Pakistan.

Table 3. - Pakistan: Rice exports, imports, and net exports, 1948-51

Year	Exports	Imports	Net exports
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
1948	1/ 74.1	6.0	68.1
1949	1/ 3.5	22.4	-
1950	-	48.4	-
1951	2/ 307.0	0	307.0

1/ To India.

2/ Exportable supplies. Deliveries on Indian contract started in December 1950. It is estimated that 22,400 tons were shipped before January 1, 1951.

Source: Compiled from official sources.

Of Pakistan's 1951 export commitments totaling 293,400 short tons, 271,000 tons were to be shipped to India and 22,400 tons to Ceylon. Deliveries on these contracts through June 12 totaled 153,000 tons: 104,000 tons were delivered to India from West Pakistan; 26,880 tons, shipped originally from West to East Pakistan, were moved to India from East Pakistan; and 22,400 tons were delivered to Ceylon. Shipments to India have been proceeding at the rate of approximately 2,000 tons per day.

The 130,000 ton carry-over from the 1949-50 crop of West Pakistan was shipped to Karachi for storage. Since it was stacked in bags in the open for approximately 15 months, it suffered considerable damage. Many of the bags had rotted, and the rice had to be poured out, sorted, and rebagged before shipment. Warehouse space for storage is short; previous to the partitioning of Pakistan from India, it was standard procedure to store grain in the open for shipment from Karachi. Even the occasional rain in this area can damage grain considerably when it is stored in the open, and recently stocks have been covered with tarpaulins.

The quality of rice being exported from Pakistan is similar to that of Burma. Under the trade agreement with India, Pakistan receives £ 42 10s a long ton for milled rice (\$5.31 per 100 pounds). Maximum brokens allowed in Pakistan rice under the trade agreement with India are 45 percent for milled rice, and 30 percent for parboiled. However, the percentage of brokens in the rice delivered is much smaller than the authorized amount and is generally not over 25 to 30 percent.

Pakistan rice seed is not mixed as it is in Indochina, Burma and Thailand, where several different varieties may be found in the same sample. There is no doubt that Pakistan could produce larger quantities of high-quality milled rice should world prices make it profitable to do so.

Previous to the war and partition, East Bengal (East Pakistan) imported rice from Burma and shipped rice to nearby areas in India. No records are available as to the quantities entering this trade, but there was a general movement of rice westwards from Burma to East Bengal and from East Bengal to India.

Shipments from West to East Pakistan

Although West Pakistan harvests only 10 percent of Pakistan's rice crop, it produces a surplus. Sind province normally has a surplus of around 220,000 tons, Punjab 60,000 tons and others in good years 20,000 tons, making a total of approximately 280,000 to 300,000 tons.

Under present conditions, East Pakistan is a deficit producing area and only in an exceptional year can it be self-sufficient. For Government planning purposes, that area must depend on supplies from West Pakistan to meet its annual deficit, estimated at 220,000 tons. Recent rice shipments from West Pakistan, however, have been closer to 100,000 tons per year.

Although East Bengal's rice imports for the past 3 years have averaged considerably less than 220,000 tons, that amount represents less than 3 percent of East Bengal's total production and is a small enough margin for the Province when the hazards of drought and floods are considered.

Rice is stockpiled in East Pakistan for a stand-by ration in its price-stabilization program. At the end of the year, rice which has not been used is sold to India and replaced with fresh stocks.

Prices and Rationing

Since the East Bengal famine in 1943, the Government has instituted measures to insure a minimum ration to the urban population and to stabilize prices. At present, approximately 1,173,000 people are on ration in East Bengal. For administrative purposes, rationees have been divided into three categories: (1) urban, (2) heavy workers, and (3) semi-urban.

Rice is rationed to these people at approximately 20 rupees per maund (\$7.29 per 100 pounds). The amount allowed may vary for different categories. The present authorized amount for urban rations is 3-1/2 sers (7 pounds) per person a week.

According to the law, people entitled to rations are prohibited from purchasing rice on the open market. Actually this law is not enforced, and as a result the Government's ration program in East Bengal serves to stabilize rice prices at close to 20 rupees per maund. When the price drops below 20 rupees per maund, the price at which rationed rice is sold, and rationees can save by buying on the open market, many stop obtaining rations. When the market price rises above the ration price, consumers return to the Government ration rolls. For periods of several months during the last year, open market prices were below the Government ration prices.

Table 4. - East Bengal: Average minimum retail price of rice (Provincial), by months, 1949-May 1959

Month	1949		1950		1951	
	Rupees per maund	Dollars per 100 pounds	Rupees per maund	Dollars per 100 pounds	Rupees per maund	Dollars per 100 pounds
January	25/3	9.18	19/1	6.95	15/8	5.65
February	26/13	9.78	18/10	6.79	17/12	6.47
March	27/10	10.07	17/-	6.20	19/4	7.02
April	28/9	10.41	17/1	6.22	20/2	7.34
May	30/8	11.12	19/-	6.93	1/ 21/-	1/ 7.66
June	32/6	11.80	22/3	8.09	-	-
July	29/9	10.78	21/-	7.66	-	-
August	30/14	11.26	20/15	7.63	-	-
September	33/11	12.28	20/6	7.43	-	-
October	32/3	11.74	18/14	6.88	-	-
November	23/13	8.68	16/9	6.04	-	-
December	18/13	6.86	14/13	5.40	-	-

1/ Preliminary.

Source: Government of Pakistan.

The price at which to retail rice poses a constant problem to the Government of East Bengal, for the price determines largely the rate at which rice is consumed. The Government is faced with the fiscal problem of recovering the cost price and expenses from the sale of rice; at the same time, it also must consider a minimum subsistence level for its people. This level is not attained simply by the lowering of prices, for the supply is critically balanced and must be consumed on a rationed basis throughout the year. If prices were forced down, consumption would increase and a shortage would develop before the next crop is marketed.

The present Government rationing and stabilization program of East Bengal calls for a stock procurement of approximately 370,000 to 450,000 short tons of rice and wheat. These programmed stocks are from the following sources of supply: voluntary procurement, 235,000 short tons; forced collection (from farms having over 10 acres planted to rice), 45,000 tons; rice from West Pakistan, 56,000 tons; and wheat from West Pakistan, 34,000 tons - a total of 370,000 tons. This year's figure of 56,000 tons from West Pakistan is not firm, and some sources indicated that it may be necessary to ship 100,000 tons to East Bengal from West Pakistan before the year is over.

Pakistan produces a surplus of wheat in the Western provinces which could be used to prevent hardship in East Bengal in case of adverse weather. However, in normal years, around 84,000 tons of wheat is considered the maximum that can be utilized efficiently by the population of East Bengal. The inhabitants of East Pakistan are rice-eaters primarily; only a very limited number in the urban areas eat wheat.

Table 5. - East Bengal: External procurement of rice and wheat, 1948-50

Year	Rice	Wheat and wheat products
	<u>1,000 short tons</u>	<u>1,000 short tons</u>
1948	108,826	14,037
1949	173,980	133,704
1950	147,143	35,943

Not all of the stocks listed in table 5 originated in West Pakistan. Total imports of wheat and rice from foreign countries from 1948 through 1950 were 6,000, 22,000, and 48,000 short tons, respectively.

Total supplies rationed from 1948 through 1950, including some wheat, were 216,000, 362,000, and 261,000 short tons, respectively. For 1951, the planned procurement of 370,000 tons is to be available for rationing.



FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 5-51

September 7, 1951

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES - RICE

Rice Situation in Burma 1/

By Isom Deshotels
Marketing Specialist

Before the war, Burma was the world's largest exporter of rice. Its exports, averaging 3,250,000 short tons annually, comprised 30 percent of world trade in rice and exceeded the combined total of the other two major exporters, Indochina and Thailand. Although four-fifths of its rice was exported to Asiatic countries, Burma shipped rice to all parts of the world. During the war, production dropped considerably, and despite the progress made in restoring cultivation in recent years the present acreage remains below prewar and exports are still less than half the former volume. Nevertheless, Burma remains one of the two major sources of world rice supplies and is particularly important for Asia's import needs.

Outlook

Movement of paddy to market in 1951 has been good. Exports are from 1950-51 production with no backlog of paddy kept away from markets by rebel activities. Organized insurgent operations have been largely overcome especially on the main roads, canals, and rivers, but raiding bands continue to interfere with production in outlying areas and approximately 2.6 million acres of riceland remain idle with little hope of extending cultivation to this acreage until the farmers are ensured of safety from pillage of their fields.

1/ This circular is a preliminary report of one of the countries visited on a special survey of the rice situation in the Far East conducted in 1951, under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act, by Isom Deshotels, Marketing Specialist, Grain Division, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Mr. Deshotels acknowledges the help of the American Embassy at Rangoon, and trade and other sources.

The reclamation of this land would permit exports to increase 2 million tons of rice within the next 2 to 3 years. Increases beyond this figure will be difficult and will depend largely on the Government's ability to finance such undertakings.

An increase in production in the immediate future would probably be reflected in increased exports, for the people are consuming the normal per capita consumption of rice and the bulk of abandoned land is found in the exporting areas.

Acreage and Production

The latest estimate of the 1950-51 rice crop (November 1950) gave planted acreage as 9,378,900 acres as compared with 9,318,700 acres for 1949-50. Although no official estimate of the 1950-51 crop has been published, it is believed to be approximately the same as production in 1949-50, which is estimated at about 5.7 million short tons (11,400 million pounds) of rough rice.

Table 1. - Burma: Acreage and production of rough rice, 5-years averages 1930-31 to 1944-45, and annual 1945-46 to 1949-50

Year	Acreage	Production	Yield per acre
	1,000 acres	Million pounds	Pounds
Average:			
1930-31/34-35 ...	12,770	16,118.2	1,262
1935-36/39-40 ...	12,671	15,683.3	1,238
1940-41/44-45 ...	10,650	12,375.0	1,162
Annual:			
1945-46	6,983	6,050.5	866
1946-47	7,910	8,457.5	1,069
1947-48	9,407	11,968.4	1,272
1948-49	9,921	10,702.0	1,079
1949-50	9,319	11,400.0	1,223

1/ Estimate of Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Source: Compiled from official sources of Burma, except as noted.

The average prewar acreage of Divisional Burma for the 5-year period ended 1939-40 is given as 11,797,000 acres, as compared with the November 1950 estimate of 9,119,900 acres for the year 1950-51. Divisional Burma comprises all riceland except about 300,000 acres in Northeast Burma. This means that approximately 2.6 million acres are estimated to be idle principally in the Delta (Irrawaddy-Pegu) and Akyab areas, which supply the bulk of Burma's exports.

Some of the factors preventing the recovery of idle land and hampering production are as follows: (1) banditry in outlying areas; (2) condition of abandoned fields; (3) shortage of livestock for draft purposes; (4) land nationalization; (5) lack of an efficient credit system; and (6) shortage of labor.

Before farm operations can return to normal, law and order must be restored in rural areas. Considerable acreage could be reclaimed with a minimum of expenditure, but farmers are unwilling to invest either labor or money in restoring abandoned land to production unless they can be reasonably sure of harvesting a crop without interference from raiding bands.

Insurgent activities have also caused farmers to abandon traditional cultural methods. For example, during the rainy season, farmers formerly moved from the village to temporary camps built in the rice fields so that they could be close to their work. These fields are often several hours' journey from the villages. Today, farmers do not consider it safe to live in the camps, so they return home each night, spending as little time in the fields as possible. They may plow the field once or twice instead of half a dozen times as customary. They now broadcast directly instead of transplanting as was the traditional method. Yields per acre are reduced under these conditions.

The present abandoned land is estimated at 1 million to 1.5 million acres. Broken dikes and the accumulation of heavy jungle growth will make large expenditures necessary to bring this land back under cultivation. This would probably have to be done through Government financing.

Information of the number of cattle available for draft purposes is unavailable. The figure of 4.5 million was mentioned as an estimate, with a calf production of over half a million per year. The official estimate in 1947-48 was 5,209,000, and some sources believe the supply has increased since that time. Prewar cattle population was given as approximately 6 million. Cattle production is centered in the north, and movement of animals to the south has been difficult because of rebel activities. Shortage of cattle does not appear to be an important limiting factor under prevailing conditions. However, should it be possible in the near future for new areas to be cultivated, a shortage of cattle could be a factor limiting expansion.

A land-nationalization law was passed in Burma in 1948. Although only 20 square miles have been distributed officially to tenants, the fact that the law was passed has had a far-reaching effect on the agricultural economy and rural organization. Much of the land formerly owned by landlords has been taken over by tenants. This law limits individual holdings to 50 acres. It also limits the rent a landlord can collect from a tenant to twice the tax assessed on the land. For example, if a tract of land is assessed at 4 rupees (\$4 cents) per acre, the landlord can collect only 8 rupees (\$1.68) per acre as rent from the tenant. If a tenant complains

that a landlord asks more than the authorized amount, a local committee comprised of tenants takes over the administration of the farm. Absentee farming is not permitted. This has resulted in most of the small land-owners trying to farm land with hired help.

The limiting of individual holdings to 50 acres and the establishment of a rent ceiling prevents land from having any value as security for loans. Because this limits the size of loans a farmer can get from private sources, it will have a definite effect in limiting the recovery of fallow land. The money-lending system which made the original clearing of this land possible has been destroyed by the Land Nationalization Act. Land nationalization could result in better living standards for former tenants, but will not contribute to an increase in production.

Small loans are available to farmers from local merchants for their current operations. These merchants charge high rates of interest and take the farmer's paddy production as security. For example, a merchant sells a farmer a "skirt" for 6 rupees (\$1.26). The farmer agrees to repay the 6 rupees at harvest time with 4 baskets of rice, figured at 1.5 rupees (32 cents) per basket although the official price of a basket of rice is 3 rupees (63 cents). Many farmers in this way dispose of their entire paddy surplus each year. They consider themselves fortunate if they have "wunza" enough to feed themselves and their family for the coming season after paying their debts.

The Government is trying to overcome this system by providing production loans. So far these loans have not proved successful, primarily because of delay in governmental procedure. Before the loan arrives, the farmer usually has to borrow from a merchant and mortgage his crop. As a result, the Government loans are unpaid; in one district in the Central Circle, out of 1.8 million rupees loaned last year, only 300,000 were collected. Also, the size of loans usually is less than needed. Only 5 rupees (\$1.05) per acre are loaned by the Government.

In a district visited on June 2, the farmers were plowing the fields and were already in need of money. Loan applications, however, would not be accepted until June 15, and the money would not be received until some time later.

There was a loss of Indian labor during the Japanese invasion and also when Burma became an independent country. In addition, rebel activities have caused a number of farmers to move to towns, and many of them probably will not return to the farm. This reduction in farm labor could also be a factor in retarding quick return to former production levels.

There are 266 pure seed farms in Burma. Of the 52 farms in the Central Circle (an area of four districts in the Irrawaddy Delta), 30 were operated in 1950-51, and 20 in 1949-50.

Approximately 10 percent of Burma's rice acreage was planted to pure seed prior to the war. The yield from improved seed is approximately 47 baskets (basket of 46 pounds) as compared to 40 baskets for ordinary seed on an acre of good land. This is an increase of 17.5 percent. Not only is the yield higher, but red rice and different-size seeds are eliminated, thereby improving the milling quality.

Exports

Burma's rice export commitments for 1951 are estimated at 1,435,000 short tons and cover the entire amount of expected available supplies for the year. This is a good indication of the 1951 export supplies. Burmese officials have a high regard for contracts and in June they were refusing to make any more since they believed the present contracts would be all that they could fill. They have already found it necessary to withdraw some of the original 220,000-tons allotment made to private trade in order to fill Government contracts, and it may become necessary to withhold additional amounts from private trade allotments for this purpose. Some later supplemental contracts have been reported, made subject to availability of supplies.

Table 2. - Burma: Exports of milled rice, by country of destination
average 1936-40, annual 1946-50

Country of destination	Average 1936-40	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1/
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	
India.....	1,766	267	384	555	418	213	
Ceylon.....	404	48	123	342	297	471	
Malaya.....	254	134	149	222	163	30	
Indonesia.....	78	16	53	66	148	218	
Borneo.....	2/	1	5	12	2/	2/	
Hong Kong.....	2/	14	104	41	19	9	
China.....	58	0	63	68	45	34	
Japan.....	3/ 117	0	0	2/	61	190	
Pakistan.....	4/	0	2/	2/	62	2/	
United Kingdom.....	64	0	3	38	32	8	
Other Europe.....	248	0	0	2	2/	26	
Mauritius.....	30	0	0	12	2/	24	
Fr. and Port. India.....	2/	0	2/	2/	2/	23	
Near East.....	2/	0	2/	2/	2/	49	
Other countries.....	233	0	6	4	71	25	
Total	3,252	480	890	1,362	1,316	1,320	

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Not separately reported.

3/ To Japan, Korea, and Taiwan.

4/ Included in imports to India.

Source: State Agricultural Marketing Board, Burma.

Exports for the January-May 1951 period were approximately 680,000 short tons, more than half of which was shipped from Rangoon. Shipments by ports during this period were as follows: Rangoon, 451,000; Bassein, 82,000; Moulmein, 57,000; and Akyah, 88,000 short tons.

Table 3. - Burma: Rice shipments, by country of destination, Burma January-May 1951

Country of destination	January	February	March	April	May	January-May
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
Ceylon.....	30,115	25,122	61,601	62,151	59,158	238,147
India.....	23,740	32,335	35,647	56	22,745	114,523
Indonesia.....	13,005	2,234	37,853	36,418	45,159	134,669
Persian Gulf.....	8,322	13,953	3,254	2,952	3,433	31,914
Japan.....	10,753	11,936	9,036	20,700	17,134	69,559
East Africa.....	3,165	2,733	1,661	1,362	0	8,921
Malaya.....	3,049	4,524	2,264	0	801	10,638
United Kingdom...	2,182	8,664	5,968	4,483	965	22,263
Red Sea Ports....	1,263	1,090	2,350	36	0	4,739
British Gambia...	775	0	0	0	0	775
French India.....	740	0	0	0	0	740
Belgium.....	416	1,372	4,118	1,101	1,636	8,643
Portuguese India..	336	0	0	0	0	336
Hong Kong.....	112	224	365	107	0	808
Ethiopia.....	0	956	0	0	0	956
Seychelles.....	0	0	648	0	0	648
Ireland.....	0	676	0	0	0	676
Mauritius.....	0	391	2,210	0	0	2,601
Okinawa.....	0	0	0	0	27,217	27,217
Total	97,972	106,212	166,975	129,366	178,249	678,774

Source: State Agricultural Marketing Board, Burma.

The Government of Burma continues to control all rice exports through the State Agricultural Marketing Board (SAMB) which takes possession of all rice to be exported at the mills. The major part of the exports are large shipments of medium-quality rice covered by Government-to-Government contracts. The shipments by private trade are usually small lots of high-quality rice for which high premium prices can be obtained.

Prices and Marketing

Recent Government-to-Government contracts were concluded at £ 45 per long ton (\$5.62 per 100 pounds) f.a.s., for Small Mills Special, 42 percent broken, Burma's principal export quality. This compares with the 1950 price of £ 40 per long ton (\$5.00 per 100 pounds) and 1949 price of £ 38 per long ton (\$4.75 per 100 pounds). Approximately one-half of the 1951 increase goes to pay for an increase in the cost of bags. Private exporters who have received allocations are presently offering S. M. S., 38 percent broken, at £ 52 (\$6.50 per 100 pounds).

Table 4. - Burma: Export prices of rice (f.o.b.), 1950 ^{1/}

Quality	Percentage:		Prices per	
	of	Long ton	100	
	broken		pounds	
	Percent	£ sterling	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars
<u>White Rice</u>				
Ngasein Group (medium short-grain):				
Small Mills Specials (SMS)	42:	40	112.00:	5.00
Small Mills Quality (SMQ)	38:	41	114.80:	5.12
Superior Quality (SQ)	35:	42	117.60:	5.25
Europe No. 3 (No.3)	30:	43	120.40:	5.38
Europe No. 2 (No.2)	25:	44	123.20:	5.50
Europe No. 1 (No.1)	15:	45	126.00:	5.62
Sughandi and Ekarine (long-grain):				
Sughanki	38:	42	117.60:	5.25
Ekarine	38:	42	117.60:	5.25
Ekarine	25:	44	123.20:	5.50
Zeera	38:	42	117.60:	5.25
<u>Boiled Rice</u>				
Long Boiled (Sughanki long-grain)	10:	43	120.40:	5.38
Milchar No. 1 (Ngasein medium short-grain)	8:	42	117.60:	5.25
Full boiled	12:	41	114.80:	5.12
<u>Loonzain (brown rice)</u>				
Ngasein, medium short-grain (2-12-15)	Paddy 2:	36	100.80:	4.50
	(Reds 12:			
	(Broken 15:			
Sughanki, - long-grain (2-4-10)	Paddy 2:	37	103.60:	4.62
	(Reds 4:			
	(Broken 10:			
<u>Broken</u>				
White rice broken (No.2, 3, and 4 mixed)		27-2/3	77.47:	3.46
Boiled rice broken (No.2, 3, and 4 mixed)		27-2/3	77.47:	3.46

^{1/} Comparable prices for 1951 are not available by grade.

^{2/} New 1951 price \$5.62 f.a.s., an increase of 62 cents per 100 pounds.

Source: State Agricultural Marketing Board, Burma.

Prices paid the miller, by the State Agricultural Marketing Board are set at 800 rupees per 100 baskets of 75 pounds (\$2.24 per 100 pounds) for S.M.S., 42 percent broken. The price of paddy is also set by the Government. Millers must pay farmers 300 rupees per 100 baskets of 46 pounds each (\$1.37 per 100 pounds) in the port area and 285 rupees (\$1.30 per 100 pounds) upcountry.

Although these are referred to as prices to the farmer, they actually do not represent prices to farmers. Very few farmers deliver their rice to port mills. It is customary for rice buyers, or middlemen, to purchase rice from the farmer and transport it to the mills. If these buyers receive 300 rupees per 100 baskets (\$1.37 per 100 pounds) for the rice they deliver to the mill, they can pay the farmer only this price minus their expenses of handling and a profit margin. Reports are that buyers were paying only about half the designated price during the rush period last season.

Paddy is reported to be selling presently at a price above the Government minimum price. However, this will benefit few farmers, for they usually sell their rice soon after harvesting. The middlemen and speculators are the ones who profit from seasonal price increases.

The farmers who deliver their rice to the rural mills, or the rural purchasing points, may receive 285 rupees per 100 baskets (\$1.30 per 100 pounds). However, trading practices are sometimes used by the buyers to the disadvantage of the farmer. In the rush season, when there is a steady movement of paddy, millers may stop buying, stating that they have all they can handle. Farmers cannot very well take their rice back home, so they have to sell it for what they can get. Some buyers pay the 285 rupees, but use baskets with a capacity of 50 rather than 46 pounds. There is also the problem of taxes imposed by the rebels. In many areas they have established control points where they collect taxes from either the farmer or the buyer on paddy moving through.

The State Agricultural Marketing Board is attempting to overcome these abuses and insure the minimum Government price to farmers. They require millers to obtain certificates signed by village organizations, stating that they have paid the Government price. The SAMB will purchase from the millers only an amount equal to the calculated milling yield of the paddy, covered by certificates held by the millers. The SAMB also has a plan for establishing its own purchasing points in the rural areas where they would buy the paddy for 285 rupees per 100 baskets (\$1.30 per 100 pounds) when the price offered by buyers drops below that level. Although the SAMB is reported to have purchased little rice so far, its efforts have helped to acquaint farmers with prices and place them in a better bargaining position. Officials of the Ministry of Agriculture admitted that the Government-established prices on paddy are difficult to enforce and indicated that a price differential should be established to encourage farmers to produce better-quality paddy.

Expenses incurred by SAMB include the cost of rice from millers, the export tax, handling expenses, and bags which were currently reported to total around 327 rupees per long ton or \$3.07 per 100 pounds.

The SAMB has other expenses in connection with the procurement of rice, but no figures were given for the cost of these operations. Some of these additional expenses are connected with the transportation of milled rice, which is purchased upcountry by SAMB to Rangoon at SAMB expense; the provision of guards for buyers moving rice in areas subject to rebel raids; and the operation of the SAMB price stabilization programs. When the price of paddy falls below the Government price of 285 rupees per 100 baskets (\$1.30 per 100 pounds) in the upcountry areas, SAMB starts buying. The cost of transporting this paddy to the mills may be high. In such cases, SAMB would take a considerable loss when delivering paddy to upcountry mills at 285 rupees or to port mills at 300 rupees (1.37 per 100 pounds).

Local retail prices are not set by the Government, but when prices rise above a certain level, SAMB releases milled rice in urban areas in order to lower prices.

The Government derives a major portion of its revenue from profits accruing on the sale of rice, and the farmer has little share in the current prices received for exports. Abnormal military budgets, however, play an important role in present expenditures. These also have a direct bearing on rice exports, for security must be maintained in farm areas in order to permit increased production and larger exports.

Milling and Storage

The present number of mills in Burma is reported as 735, which compares with a prewar figure of 637. The mills could probably turn out considerably more rice than at present, since current production does not supply enough paddy to keep all the mills operating full time.

The largest concentration of rice mills is on canals in the Rangoon area, where there is a milling capacity of 6,000 tons per day, but other ports are also important milling centers and small mills are found scattered throughout the country. There is one large mill with a capacity of 500 tons per day in East Rangoon.

In June 1951, the warehouses of these mills were filled to capacity with milled rice. Bran was being stored outside, sheltered by lean-tos. The manager of one mill stated that stocks of paddy at mill and in warehouses upcountry were adequate to keep his mill operating until next December when the new rice would be available.

Most mills have purchased paddy supplies for the season, and little rice is being sold at the present time. Milling is very competitive, and the margin allowed by SAMB is figured close.

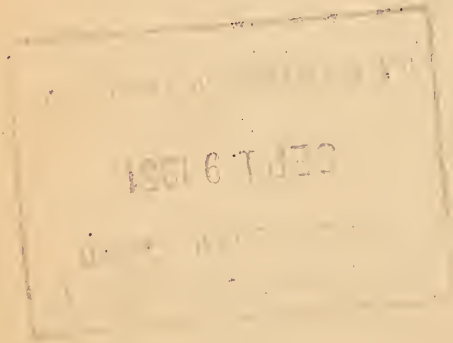
Millers use various means to make a profit under SAMB controls as their margin for milling is reported limited. They also usually stock up on rice early in the season when prices are low, and much of their profit is made through speculation on these stocks.

Most of the mills are old and less efficient than new mills. Whether it would be an economical investment to replace these mills with new ones is under study. The Government is considering financing a pilot mill for this purpose.

Mills are run by steam and hulls are used as fuel. At one of the mills visited, a generator was connected to the steam engine for the purpose of running a second mill 100 yards away. At first this seemed like a good idea, but the first mill did not have enough hulls to run the boilers. Since hulls had to be bagged and transported from the second mill to the boilers of the first, a steam engine at each mill would probably have been advisable.

The principal grade of rice being produced is S.M.S. (Small Mills Special), 42 percent broken. Parboiled rice represents about 25 percent to the total exports.

The percentage of rice and rice products obtained from milling at the mills visited was given for S.M.S., 42 percent broken, as follows: rice, 63.5; broken, 3.9; bran and polish, 6.4; and hulls and foreign material, 26.2 percent.





FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

76 FR 6-51

September 19, 1951

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES-RICE

Rice Situation in Indochina 1/

By Isom Deshotels
Marketing Specialist

The former States of French Indochina are now divided into three associated states of the French Union. They are (1) the Kingdom of Cambodia, formerly known as the States of Cambodia; (2) the Kingdom of Laos, formerly the State of Laos; (3) the State of Vietnam, now made up of the following three states: South Vietnam, formerly Cochinchina; Central Vietnam, formerly Annam; and North Vietnam, formerly Tonkin.

Before the war French Indochina in some years ranked next to Burma as the second largest exporter of rice. Exports averaged 1.5 million short tons annually in the 1935-39 prewar period. Although the largest quantities were shipped to France and French possessions in Africa, over one-third, or more than current annual exports, was exported to the other countries of Asia.

During World War II, the rice production of French Indochina dropped to less than 75 percent of the former output. Since the beginning of the postwar period, insurgent activities have prevented a restoration of Indochina's rice acreage and have continued to restrict exports to less than 10 percent of the prewar level.

1/ This circular is a preliminary report of one of the countries visited on a special survey of the rice situation in the Far East conducted in 1951, under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act, by Isom Deshotels, Marketing Specialist, Grain Division, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Mr. Deshotels acknowledges the help of the American Legation at Saigon, and trade and other sources.

Acreage and Production

Up to 1946, rice statistics were published regularly by the Rice Office of Indochina. These records are complete, except for Laos, and are considered fairly accurate. In 1946, the responsibility for rice statistics was shifted to the three respective Governments. Because of unsettled conditions in many areas, the statistics available since 1946 are based on reports from the provincial offices instead of the villages, and are only estimates. They deal principally with Cambodia and the State of South Vietnam (Cochinchina) in Vietnam. No estimates have been made for Laos, which is considered relatively unimportant as a rice producer.

Because the rebel forces hold some areas and raiding bands operate in others, estimates of Indochina's rice acreage in 1950-51 do not cover the whole country. However, they are available for the principal procuring areas - Cambodia and South Vietnam (see table 1).

Table 1. - Indochina: Acreage and production of rough rice in South Vietnam and Cambodia, average 1934-35 to 1938-39, annual 1949-50 and 1950-51

Year	South Vietnam		Cambodia	
	Acreage	Production	Acreage	Production
	1,000	Million	1,000	Million
	<u>acres</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>acres</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Average: 1934-35 to 1938-39..	5,231	6,745.6	1,940	1,689.8
1949-50.....	2,943	3,419.3	2,545	2,689.6
1950-51.....	2,723	2,159.2	2,684	2,872.6

Source: Rice Office of Indochina.

Before the war, Indochina produced approximately 7.5 million short tons of rough rice per year (15,000 million pounds). Cambodia and Cochinchina, with only one-third of the country's population, produced over 56 percent of the total rice crop and were the source of Indochina's export supplies. Laos and Annam generally consumed domestic production, and Tonkin imported rice in years of poor harvests.

In Cambodia, which has been little disturbed by the war, present production is above the 1934-35 through 1938-39 average and about equal to production in 1938-39, the best prewar year. A different situation prevails in South Vietnam (Cochinchina), where rebel activities have caused a great reduction in acreage and production of rice. Here, production in 1950-51 is estimated at approximately one-half the average for 1934-35 through 1938-39.

Large tracts of land are idle in the Transbassac region south and west of the Bassac branch of the Mekong River in South Vietnam. This important area has been under control of the rebels since 1946, and under military blockade by the French since January 1949. Even if hostilities should suddenly come to an end, it would take an estimated 3 years to restore acreage to the prewar level, and even longer to restore prewar yields. This area, originally a salt marsh, was developed and brought under rice cultivation by the French who built a system of canals to provide water for leaching out the salt, for irrigation, and for transportation of paddy. These canals are now silted so that they will have to be worked over before they can be used again for these purposes. Salt has accumulated on the fallow fields, and restoration of land for rice cultivation, when started, will be gradual.

Exports

In Indochina (Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos) the rebel, or Viet Minh forces control the most important rice-exporting area, and the Cambodian and Vietnam Governments control the ports and facilities through which these supplies must pass to the outside world.

A large part of South Vietnam (Chochinchina), Indochina's most import exporting State in prewar days, continues to be under Viet Minh control and subject to harassment. Over 1 million short tons of Indochina's prewar exports were provided by this State; of this amount, 855,000 tons, or about one-half of Indochina's exports, came from the Transbassac area. The area north of the Bassac River, known as the Cisbassac, is now under Government control, but the most important area - the Transbassac is still in rebel hands.

Table 2. - Indochina: Exports of rice and rice products, gross weight, 1935-50

Year	Quantity	Year	Quantity	Year	Quantity
	1,000		1,000		1,000
	short tons		short tons		short tons
1935.....	1,927	1940.....	1,748	1945.....	50
1936.....	1,943	1941.....	1,041	1946.....	120
1937.....	1,679	1942.....	1,074	1947.....	100
1938.....	1,162	1943.....	1,129	1948.....	257
1939.....	1,844	1944.....	550	1949.....	170
				1950.....	133

Source: Customs statistics.

Prior to January 1949 the rebel forces were collecting heavy taxes from farmers on rice exports in the Transbassac area and thus deriving revenue to finance their operations. In order to cut off this source of revenue to the Viet Minh forces, the French Army imposed a blockade around the area in January 1949. Some rice however, is leaving the area. The military are conducting expeditions into the area to collect paddy, particularly for Army needs. They also grant permits and provide military guards to buyers who wish to enter this area to procure paddy.

Stocks of paddy in the Transbassac area which would be available for export if the blockade were lifted are estimated at between 500,000 and 1 million short tons. There is evidence that the surplus stock in the area has diminished during the last year, and as the blockade continues in effect the stocks will continue to diminish. The area is totally lacking in storage facilities for keeping rice over a long period of time.

In 1950 Indochina exported 133,000 short tons of milled rice. Under the prevailing military situation, exports for 1951 are expected to be close to 300,000 tons from the areas now in Government hands. If the Transbassac blockade were to be lifted, an additional amount estimated from 350,000 to 700,000 tons of milled rice equivalent would become available for export from the present stocks of that area. This is, of course, the unknown factor which could change the export picture for Indochina. Even intensified efforts by military guards could easily bring exports for 1951 to 400,000 tons.

Table 3. - Indochina: Rice exports, by country of destination, and by grade, 1950

Destination	Rice	Brokens	Total Milled	Bran
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
From Saigon:				
France.....	16,746	9,659	26,405	-
North Africa.....	3,197	33	3,230	-
French West and Eq. Africa.	13,756	22,177	35,933	-
French India.....	5,512	2,205	7,717	-
French Somaliland.....	328	0	328	-
Reunion.....	18,262	194	19,156	55
New Caledonia, New Hebrides	2,908	0	2,908	-
French West Indies.....	2,288	0	2,288	-
French Guiana.....	165	0	165	-
Germany.....	1,102	3,868	4,970	-
Netherlands.....	0	11	11	-
Zanzibar.....	1,111	0	1,111	-
Hong Kong.....	11,493	0	11,493	-
Singapore.....	2,464	3,238	5,702	10,859
Total.....	80,032	41,385	121,417	10,914
From Phnom Penh:				
Singapore.....	11,253	110	11,363	3,031
Total Indochina.....	91,285	41,495	132,780	13,945

Source: Societe Commerciale Francaise de l'Indochine.

The estimated export increases for 1951 over 1950 are due largely to the excellent crop harvested in North Vietnam in 1950-51, making it unnecessary to continue large shipments into this area during 1951.

An estimated 200,000 tons of the 300,000 tons will originate in Cambodia but these exports will be shipped from Saigon, Vietnam. Paddy is brought across the border to Saigon and Cholon for milling and exporting. As there is no check on the volume, it is difficult to determine how much rice crosses the border into Vietnam. However, Cambodia is attempting to control the export of paddy and has issued a directive which will require export licenses for shipments of paddy to Vietnam.

Cambodia has been little disturbed by the war and its exports are approximately equal to prewar exports of 200,000 tons per year. Exports from Saigon in 1949 and 1950 were considerably short of the 200,000 tons received from Cambodia, as Vietnam was a deficit rice-producing area in these years.

From January to April 30, 1951, approximately 125,000 short tons of rice were exported from Indochina. Exports to May 25 are estimated at close to 150,000 tons with an additional 20,000 tons on contract for forward deliveries. Approximately 130,000 tons of the expected 1951 exports had not been committed at that time.

Table 4, Indochina: Exports of rice and rice products, from Saigon, by country of destination, January-April 1951

Country of destination	Rice	Cargo Rice	Broken No. 1 and 2	Broken No. 3	Rice flour	Total
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
France.....	10,002	2,780	1,220	1,164	-	15,166
French Africa.....	13,740	-	22,173	-	-	35,913
French West Indies....	2,143	-	-	-	-	2,143
Algeria.....	334	-	83	-	-	417
Tunisia.....	28	-	-	-	-	28
Morocco.....	1,030	-	-	-	-	1,030
French Somaliland.....	110	-	-	-	-	110
French India.....	1,213	-	-	-	-	1,213
Reunion.....	20,398	-	1,049	-	-	21,447
Madagascar.....	109	-	-	-	-	109
Comoro Islands.....	55	-	-	-	-	55
Others.....	276	-	55	-	-	331
Total, French Union	49,438	2,780	24,580	1,164	-	77,962
Germany.....	1,422	3,241	7,082	1,499	-	13,244
United Kingdom.....	1,102	-	-	-	-	1,102
Ireland.....	165	-	-	-	-	165
Ethiopia.....	11	-	-	-	-	11
Indonesia.....	1/22,046	-	-	-	-	1/22,046
Singapore.....	-	606	42	-	5,017	5,665
British West Africa....	3,059	-	-	-	-	3,059
British East Africa....	2,240	-	-	-	-	2,240
Guam.....	386	-	-	-	-	386
New Guinea.....	386	-	-	-	-	386
Total, foreign trade	30,817	3,847	7,124	1,499	5,017	48,304
Total exports.....	80,255	6,627	31,704	2,663	5,017	126,266

1/ Includes 2,205 tons loaded at Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Source: Association des Exportateurs Francais d'Indochine.

Stocks on hand in Saigon are estimated at 70,000 short tons of milled rice equivalent and are considered adequate to meet the present contracts with a sufficient margin to control local prices. Rice is released on the local market as needed to keep prices at the desired level.

Prices

There are no controlled export prices in Saigon. Prices are published in several commercial journals, and the following quotations are from Societe Commerciale Francaise de l'Indochine, a publication released by the organization of the same name. This firm ships 95 percent of the rice exports from Indochina.

Table 5. Indochina: Rice prices f.o.b., Saigon,
gross shipping weight 1/

Grade	April 20, 1950		March 19, 1951	
	Per	Per	Per	Per
	metric	100	metric	100
	ton	pounds	ton	pounds
	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars
Saigon white rice No. 1,				
25 percent broken.....	128.00	5.81	128.50	5.83
Saigon white rice No. 2,				
Japan quality, 40 percent				
broken.....	119.50	5.42	118.50	5.38
Saigon white rice No. 2,				
Java quality, 50-55				
percent broken.....	112.00	5.08	113.50	5.18
Broken No. 1 and 2 mixed..	105.00	4.76	108.50	4.92

1/ Packed in new gunny bags HC 40 x 28.

Source: Societe Commerciale Francaise de l'Indochine. Since "Societe" publication is not published every month and there is no issue for April 1951 or for March 1950, prices could not be given for the same month in each year.

The customs fee, which is approximately 10 percent of the average price for all grades, is set from week to week by the Customs Office. A Government price list is furnished to exporters every week as a guide to the prices that are to be approved by the export office.

Table 6. - Vietnam: Government price list of rice, by grade, f.a.s., Saigon, week ended May 17, 1951

Grade	Price 1/		
	100	Metric	100
	kilograms piasters	ton U.S. dollars	pounds U.S. dollars
White rice, glutinous, 85%-9% whole grain.....	340.00	170.00	7.71
Glutinous rice, 65%-75% whole grain....	315.00	157.50	7.14
Choice long/round 10% broken.....	317.00	158.50	7.19
Choice long/round 15% broken.....	312.50	156.25	7.09
No. 1 long/round ordinary, 10%.....	287.00	143.50	6.51
No. 1 long/round ordinary, 15%.....	277.00	138.50	6.28
No. 1 ordinary, 15%.....	272.00	136.00	6.17
No. 1 ordinary, 20%.....	270.00	135.00	6.12
No. 1 ordinary, 25%.....	267.00	133.50	6.06
No. 2 Reunion, 40%.....	257.00	128.50	5.83
No. 2 Japan, 40%.....	257.00	128.50	5.83
No. 2 Java, 50%-55%.....	247.00	123.50	5.60
Cargo (rizeries) 10%-15%.....	247.00	123.50	5.60
Cargo (for food) red grains 35%.....	220.00	110.00	4.99
Broken No. 1 and 2.....	233.00	116.50	5.28
Broken No. 3.....	171.00	85.50	3.88
Polish.....	142.00	71.00	3.22
Bran.....	101.00	50.50	2.29

1/ Includes all fees except those of Superintendence Agency.

Source: Societe Commerciale Francaise de l'Indochine.

All foreign exchange earned through the export of rice is retained by the Government. The exporting firm receives piasters at the official rate of exchange--approximately 20 piasters to a United States dollar. The price in foreign currency negotiated between buyers and an exporting firm must be approved by Government authorities for each transaction. This does not constitute price controls or setting of prices by the Government. It is only a check to insure that the Government is getting the entire amount of foreign currency actually received by the exporter. The price list published by the Government is a minimum price acceptable to the Government. When prices are rising, exporting firms may be able to obtain higher prices. According to Government policy all foreign currency must be turned in regardless of whether the amount received exceeds the world market price or the price of the comparable grade in the published list of minimum prices.

For comparison of prices from January through May 1951 with the same period in 1950 see table 7. These figures do not include the total cost to the buyer f.o.b. ship, and can be used only for comparison. Even though these prices are given as f.a.s., the actual price the buyer had to pay in May 1951 was 24.25 piasters (55 cents) higher than this price. This amount is equal to the customs tax for that month.

Table 7. - Indochina: Comparative weekly rice prices at Saigon and Phnom Penh, No. 1, 25 percent broken, January-May, 1950 & 1951

Date	Saigon, f.a.s., including bags				Phnom Penh ex godown			
	1950		1951		1950		1951	
	Piasters per 100 Kg.	Dollars per 100 pounds	Piasters per 100 Kg.	Dollars per 100 pounds	Piasters per 100 Kg.	Dollars per 100 pounds	Piasters per 100 Kg.	Dollars per 100 pounds
January 5	-	-	-	-	215	4.88	260	5.90
January 8	219.70	4.98	259.70	5.89	-	-	-	-
January 13	-	-	-	-	210	4.76	260	5.90
January 15	214.55	4.87	254.00	5.76	-	-	-	-
January 19	-	-	-	-	210	4.76	260	5.90
January 23	216.60	4.91	254.00	5.76	-	-	-	-
January 26	-	-	-	-	210	4.76	260	5.90
January 29	216.60	4.91	250.50	5.68	-	-	-	-
February 2	-	-	-	-	210	4.76	260	5.90
February 12	224.80	5.10	239.20	5.43	-	-	-	-
February 16	-	-	-	-	205	4.65	Not available	
February 19	234.85	5.33	234.55	5.32	-	-	-	-
February 23	-	-	-	-	210	4.76	230	5.22
February 26	234.85	5.33	234.55	5.32	-	-	-	-
March 2	-	-	-	-	210	4.76	230	5.22
March 6	229.75	5.21	234.80	5.33	-	-	-	-
March 9	-	-	-	-	210	4.76	230	5.22
March 12	224.60	5.09	234.80	5.33	-	-	-	-
March 16	-	-	-	-	190	4.31	230	5.22
March 20	222.55	5.05	224.55	5.09	-	-	-	-
March 23	-	-	-	-	190	4.31	220	5.22
March 27	224.60	5.09	224.55	5.09	-	-	-	-
March 30	-	-	-	-	190	4.31	220	5.22
April 3	232.15	5.27	224.55	5.09	-	-	-	-
April 6	-	-	-	-	190	4.31	220	5.22
April 10	230.10	5.22	224.65	5.10	-	-	-	-
April 10	-	-	-	-	195	4.42	215	4.88
April 17	225.55	5.12	225.15	5.11	-	-	-	-
April 20	-	-	-	-	195	4.42	220	5.22
April 24	227.60	5.16	220.00	4.99	-	-	-	-
April 27	-	-	-	-	195	4.42	225	5.10
May 2	235.70	5.35	220.00	4.99	-	-	-	-
May 3	-	-	-	-	205	4.65	225	5.10
May 9	242.75	5.51	220.10	4.99	-	-	-	-
May 15	-	-	-	-	215	4.88	-	-

Source: Chamber of Commerce, Saigon.

Milling and Transportation

There were some 60 mills operating in the Cholon area before the war with a capacity of 6,000 to 7,000 tons per day. At present there are 14 mills operating in the area with a capacity of 1,200 to 1,500 tons a day. There are also many small mills in the country, including three in Cambodia which mill for the export trade. One of the mills with a 100-ton capacity is at Phnom Penh. Another with a capacity of 25 tons is at Battambang.

Mills in the Saigon-Cholon area are generally operated by steam with hulls used as fuel. The hulls are inadequate to supply the additional fuel required for the parboiling process, and oil burners are being installed in the parboiling plant visited.

The milling facilities in Cholon were considered adequate by millers. They stated that some mills are idle because of a shortage of paddy. Other mills could be placed in production if needed. Milling equipment in Indochina comes from England, Germany, and Italy.

Paddy production will not recover quickly in Indochina, and milling facilities can easily be restored to meet the need as production increases. The only thing which could cause a temporary shortage would be the lifting of the blockade of the Transbassac. Even then the rice would be moved to Cholon over a period of months, and milling facilities could be expanded to take care of an increase in supplies.

A high percentage of brokens was being obtained at the mills visited. The paddy was mixed, and short, medium, and long grains were found in the same sample. There was a considerable quantity of red rice and grass and weed seeds.

Parboiled rice is more expensive to produce than milled rice. However, the milling yield obtained from parboiled is 70 percent as compared to 65 percent for milled rice, and this largely offsets the additional cost. In addition, the grade of the 70-percent yield from parboiled is 5-percent broken, while the 65-percent yield of milled rice from the grade of paddy used for parboiling is made up of about 57 pounds of 40-percent broken and eight pounds of brokens No. 1 and 2. The 5-percent broken grade of parboiled commands a price approximately 5 percent higher than the 40-percent broken obtained by milling.

Table 8. - Indochina: Current percentage extraction of parboiled and milled rice from rough rice in milling

Parboiled rice	Extraction	Milled rice	Extraction
	Percent		Percent
Brokens 5%.....	70	Brokens 25%.....	57
Brokens.....	0	Brokens No. 1 and 2..	8
White bran (polish)...	4.6	Brokens 3 and 4.....	3
Cargo bran (bran)....	2.1	Cargo bran.....	3.5
Hulls.....	22.83	Hulls.....	22
Foreign material.....	0.47	Foreign material.....	0.5
		White bran (polish)...	6
Total.....	100.00	Total.....	100.00

Before the Transbassac area came under rebel control in 1946, paddy was transported to Cholon and Saigon by Chinese junks through the system of canals which connected Cholon with the Transbassac. Transportation was cheap; the junks were usually able to work their way back and forth with the tide. Most of these junks have not been used for several years and they can be seen by the thousands tied up and rotting in the canals near Cholon. After the Transbassac is restored to Government control, it will take some time to rebuild the junk fleet and to open the canals again so that they can accomodate these junks. However, it will also take several years to restore production, and the prewar fleet will not be needed at once.

Much of the paddy coming in today is transported by trucks. This is an expensive method, but is the safest under the present circumstances. Guards are posted along the roads for security reasons. A small tax is charged by each province on the export of rice for the purpose of maintaining these guards.

Shipment by junks is also expensive under present conditions since they must be towed quickly with tugs for security reasons. If they traveled with the tide they would be robbed.

Grades and Grading

The grading of rice is policed by the Association of French Exporters of Indochina. This is an organization of exporting firms, most of which are also milling firms. The members of the association account for over 95 percent of all rice exports from Indochina. Members cannot export rice that has not been carefully inspected by representatives of the association.

Millers interested in exporting rice usually arrange to have an inspector call daily at their mills and advise whether their product is meeting the requirements of the association. The association has strict inspection rules and supervises its members closely, so that exports of the association are generally of the quality that they are represented to be. The bulk of the present output of mills is 40 percent broken, the common type from Cambodia.

APPENDIX 1

As established by the Association
of French Exporters of Indochina
grades of rice and rice products

Definition of Qualities

1. White Rice Choice Quality - whole round grains with 10 or 15 percent broken.

This rice must be fully milled. It must not contain more than 10 percent long grains, taking into account only the whole kernels. The rice must present a very homogeneous appearance.

2. White Rice of Choice Quality - whole long grains with 10 or 15 percent broken.

This rice must be fully milled. It must not contain more than 10 percent round grains, taking into account only the whole kernels. The rice must present a very homogeneous appearance.

3. White Rice No. 1 Long Ordinary Quality, 10, 15, or 20 percent broken.

This rice is not milled as fully as the choice qualities. It is composed of at least 60 percent of long grains taking into account only the whole kernels. It presents an appearance definitely less homogeneous than the Choice Qualities.

4. White Rice No. 1 Round Ordinary Quality, 10, 15, or 20 percent broken.

This rice is not milled as fully as the choice qualities. It is composed of at least 60 percent round grains taking into account only the whole kernels. It presents an appearance definitely less homogeneous than the Choice Qualities.

5. White Rice No. 1 Ordinary Quality, 15, 20, or 25 percent broken.

This rice is not as fully milled as the long or Round Ordinary Quality. It may contain grains of all shapes.

6. White Rice No. 2 Reunion Quality, 25 or 40 percent broken.

This rice is not as fully milled as that of No. 1 Ordinary Quality. It may include an unlimited percentage of yellow and/or tinted grains, and may contain grains of all shapes.

7. White Rice No. 2 Japan Quality 40 percent broken.

This rice is definitely not as white as Rice of No. 1 Ordinary Quality. Its milling is less complete than that of the Reunion Quality. It may include grains of all shapes and contain up to 5 percent grains with red streaks.

8. White Rice No. 2 Java Quality, 50 or 55 percent broken.

This rice, definitely less milled than that of No. 2 Japan Quality, may include grains of all shapes and contain up to 20 percent grains with red streaks.

9. Broken 1 and 2 mixed.

These broken must be derived exclusively from the milling of White Rice No. 1, must not contain paddy husks, dust, or straw, and must not permit more than 10 percent of fine broken to pass through Sieve No. 16. They must contain less than 2 percent of whole grains.

10. Broken No. 2 from White Rice.

These broken must be derived from the milling of White Rice, excluding Reunion or Java quality rice; must not contain straw, paddy husks, or dust; and must not permit more than 20 percent of fine broken to pass through Sieve No. 16. They must contain less than 2 percent of whole grains.

11. Broken No. 2 from Reunion Rice.

These broken must be derived from the milling of Reunion Rice and must not contain straw, paddy husks, or dust and must not permit more than 20 percent of fine broken to pass through Sieve No. 16. They must contain less than 2 percent of whole grains.

12. Broken No. 2 from Java Quality Rice

These broken must be derived from the milling of Java Rice and must not contain straw, paddy husks, or dust and must not permit more than 20 percent of fine broken to pass through Sieve No. 16. They must contain less than 2 percent of whole grains.

13. Broken No. 3

These brokens are derived from the milling of all qualities of White Rice with the exception of Java Rice. They must contain less than 2 percent of whole grains. They may contain a maximum of 15 percent of fine brokens that will pass through Sieve No. 18 and 5 percent of foreign matter.

Special Terms

1. Tinted grains.

The tinted grains are considered as yellow grains.

2. Yellow grains.

In regard to the Ordinary Qualities, the tolerance observed according to the custom of the market is 3 percent up to the end of July and 4 percent thereafter, provided no special mention has been made of a percentage of yellow grains. The Association may, however, deem it necessary to modify these percentages according to climate or seasonal conditions.

3. Rice of Choice Qualities.

For Rice of Choice Qualities, the percentage of yellow grains must be a matter of special agreement.

4. Glutinous grains.

The percentage of glutinous grains must not exceed a maximum of 3 percent in Rice No. 1 and No. 2. On principle, there should be no glutinous grains in the Choice Quality Rice.

5. Brokens from No. 2 rice.

The attention of buyers is drawn to the different tints which may be observed in these brokens according to the rice from which they were derived, namely Reunion, Japan, or Java Qualities.

Verification of the Percentage of Brokens

To ascertain the percentage of brokens contained in a sample of rice the following procedure is adopted:

A certain quantity of rice from a sample submitted for analysis is weighed, and instance 100 grams, and the whole grains are carefully separated from the brokens. A whole grain must be over half the size of the original grain.

If doubt exists as to whether half-grains should be classified as grains or brokens, the half-grains must be divided into two equal portions, one-half being included in the lot of grains and the other half in the brokens.

In order to determine the percentage, the grains and the brokens are weighed separately.

Example: A quantity of 100 grams of rice is found to contain 17 grams of brokens, 75 grams of whole grains, and 8 grams of doubtful half grains. This indicates that the sample of rice submitted for analysis comprises 21 percent of brokens and 79 percent of whole grains.

APPENDIX 2

Indochina: Dates of planting and harvesting rice in South Vietnam and Cambodia

Varieties	Month of		
	Sowing	Transplanting	Harvesting
<u>South Vietnam</u>			
Early varieties	May-July	June-September	November-February
Late varieties	May-June November-December	July-August December-January	December-January March
Half-season rice (of the 10th month)	May-June	July-August	November-January
Season rice	May-June	June-September	December-March
Floating rice	April-May	-	December-February
Rice of the receding water	November	December-January	February-March
<u>Cambodia</u>			
Early rice	May-June	June-July	September-October
Half-season rice	May-June	July-August	October-November
Season rice	June-July	July-August	December-January
Late rice	June-July	August-September	January-February
Floating rice	May-June	-	December-January
Dry season rice	October-January	October-January	January-April



FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 7-51

September 20, 1951

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--RICE

Rice Situation in Thailand 1/

By Isom Deshotels
Marketing Specialist

Thailand has achieved important gains in rice production since World War II, and in 1949 moved into first place as a world exporter of rice. Before the war Thailand surpassed Indochina in some years to achieve the position of second largest exporter. Of the important surplus countries, however, postwar Thailand had the best potential for a quick return to full production. Dislocation of economic conditions was less during World War II, and Thailand has not suffered from the consequences of rebel activities that have restricted the production of rice in Indochina and Burma.

Acreage and Production

Rough rice production in 1950-51 is estimated officially at 6,634,000 short tons (13,267 million pounds) compared with 7,368,000 tons (14,735 million pounds) in 1949-50, and a prewar average (1935-36 to 1939-40) of 4,784,000 tons (9,568 million pounds).

According to Thailand's official statistics the rice acreage in 1950-51 was higher than before the war and the yields per acre were low compared with prewar. Crop statistics admittedly are incomplete in Thailand. Some explanation of the decline in the per acre yield might be in the possibility that farmers, faced with a shortage of labor and expanding acreage, may have found it expedient to practice less intensive cultural methods, such as broadcasting instead of transplanting. Also, to maintain a high per acre yield of good-quality rice, such practices as plowing after rains start in order to destroy weeds and volunteer rice,

1/ This circular is a preliminary report of one of the countries visited on a special survey of the rice situation in the Far East conducted in 1951 under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act, by Isom Deshotels, Marketing Specialist, Grain Division, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Mr. Deshotels acknowledges the help of the American Embassy at Bangkok, and trade and other sources.

using good seed, and careful roguing are essential. Examination of rough and milled rice samples showed that poor-quality seed had been used and that proper care had not been taken in weeding and roguing. The sample contained a mixture of long, medium, and short grains, including red and glutinous rice, and much grass and weed seed.

Table 1. - Thailand: Rice acreage, production, and yield per acre, average 1935-40, annual 1940-41 to 1950-51

Crop Year (July-June)	Rice area				Paddy	Yield
	Total	Sown	Damaged	Harvested	production	per acre
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	Million	Pounds
	acres	acres	acres	acres	pounds	
Average:						
1935-40...	-	8,390	1,302	7,088	9,568.0	1,350
Annual:						
1940-41...	10,879	9,405	1,414	7,991	10,854.0	1,358
1941-42...	11,124	9,805	844	8,961	11,287.8	1,260
1942-43...	11,778	10,866	3,716	7,151	8,529.2	1,193
1943-44...	12,754	10,659	918	9,740	12,570.6	1,291
1944-45...	12,970	10,475	684	9,791	11,260.3	1,150
1945-46...	13,243	9,739	2,423	7,316	8,155.5	1,115
1946-47...	12,933	9,837	1,168	8,669	9,793.4	1,130
1947-48...	13,800	11,919	1,287	10,633	12,139.5	1,142
1948-49...	14,409	12,875	696	12,179	15,068.8	1,237
1949-50...	14,933	13,014	755	12,259	14,735.0	1,202
1950-51...	-	12,691	1,028	11,663	13,267.3	1,138

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Thailand.

Exports

Thailand's official export target for 1951 is 1,400,000 short tons of milled rice. In 1950 exports totaled 1,635,000 short tons. Private sources predict that 1951 exports will be approximately 1,500,000 tons, or nearly equal to those of 1950.

Table 2. - Thailand: Exports of milled rice by country of destination, average 1936-40, annual 1947-50

Country of Destination	Average 1936-40	1947	1948	1949	1950
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
Borneo.....	4	29	12	1/ 28	34
Ceylon.....	56	0	12	96	34
China.....	35	139	242	86	2/ 29
Hong Kong.....	315	42	66	59	148
India.....	38	34	182	346	97
Indonesia.....	13	48	86	150	105
Japan.....	96	0	0	90	360
Malaya.....	559	85	171	288	444
Manchuria.....	12	0	0	0	0
Philippines.....	26	20	66	41	7
Belgium.....	32	0	0	2	5
Germany.....	31	0	0	0	0
Netherlands.....	41	0	7	26	81
United Kingdom.....	38	0	5	29	33
Africa.....	43	0	0	0	3/ 56
Cuba.....	88	0	0	0	0
Korea.....	0	0	22	0	33
Portuguese Macao.....	4/	4/	4/	4/	50
Damaged and C grade...	4/	4/	4/	69	62
Other countries.....	33	27	24	30	5/ 57
Total.....	1,460	424	895	1,340	1,635

1/ North Borneo and Sarawak.

2/ Via Hong Kong.

3/ Near East and Africa.

4/ If any, not separately reported.

5/ Includes 6,500 short tons to Canada, 5,000 tons to other European countries, and 1,500 tons to Latin America.

Source: Compiled from official statistics.

Government contracts committing Thailand to deliver approximately 1,400,000 short tons of rice had been concluded as of May 16, 1951. The largest contracts were with the countries normally taking large quantities, such as Malaya, Japan, Hong Kong, and Indonesia. Commitments to India called for over 300,000 short tons compared with less than 100,000 tons in 1950.

Table 3. - Thailand: Government contracts concluded as of May 16, 1951 for rice exports in 1951

Country	Volume
	1,000 short tons
British (Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong, North Borneo, and Pacific Islands).....	458,000
Japan.....	355,000
Philippines.....	110,000
Indonesia.....	88,000
Europe, East Africa, and South America.....	55,000
India.....	331,000
Total.....	1,397,000

The 730,000-ton decrease in rough rice production (500,000 tons milled) from the 1949-50 crop, as reflected in the official statistics, is not expected to result in smaller exports in 1951 because Thailand's exportable supplies come from surpluses in the Central river areas where production is relatively stable from year to year. The greatest fluctuation occurs in submarginal areas which normally provide little or no rice for export and which do not import from the surplus areas when their crops are short, but consume less rice. The country's movement of rice is south, downstream toward Bangkok. The cost of moving it north and northeast into the submarginal areas of the interior would be prohibitive.

Table 4. - Thailand: Exports for the first quarter and month of April, 1949-51

Month	1949	1950	1951
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
January.....	112,932	1/ 66,138	132,037
February.....	163,855	99,207	204,492
March.....	173,354	176,368	192,078
First quarter.....	450,141	1/ 341,713	528,607
April.....	154,277	174,284	-

1/ Estimated.

Source: Compiled from official statistics, except as noted.

Rice exports are controlled by the Government. Approximately 85 percent of the rice is exported on Government-to-Government contracts, and 15 percent, mainly high-quality rice is shipped through private trade. Millers who wish to export rice must declare their stocks with the Rice Office--a Government agency. Exporting firms who wish to export rice must obtain export permits from the Ministry of Commerce and then go to the Rice Office (also in the Ministry of Commerce) where specific mills are designated to fill their orders.

The Bank of Thailand receives from the importer the official Government price of rice plus the service charges of the exporting firm. The Bank credits the Rice Office with the amount of the official price, and the exporting firm with its charges. These are credited in bahts at the official rate of 12.5 bahts to a U. S. dollar.

The Rice Office, however, pays the miller's price for the same quantity in bahts at the open market rate of approximately 20 bahts to the U. S. dollar. Hence, the Rice Office receives a profit not only on the difference between the purchase price from the miller and the sale price to the importer, but also on the difference between the official and open market exchange rate of the baht.

For example, the official export price of 5-percent broken is \$6.00 per 100 pounds, and the exporting firm fee is 45 cents per 100 pounds. The Bank of Thailand receives \$6.45 per 100 pounds from the importer, and credits the Rice Office with \$6.00 (1,653.75 baht at the 12.5 to 1 rate), and the exporting firm with 45 cents.

The Rice Office then pays the miller 1,359.2 baht, but at the 20 to 1 rate, which is \$3.08 per 100 pounds in U. S. dollars. At the official rate of 12.5 to 1, the miller would have received \$4.93 per 100 pounds for the same quantity. Thus the Rice Office makes a gross profit of \$2.92 per 100 pounds.

Expenses of the Rice Office include an export tax of 12 cents per 100 pounds, which is forwarded to the Treasury, and operating expenses.

The transportation of rice from the mills to the ship, including stevedoring and bagging, is a service usually provided by exporting firms. This costs approximately 45 cents per 100 pounds. The cost of bags (about 33 cents) is the main item, and the balance is for lighterage, hire of cargo boats and coolies, and on-board stevedorage.

Paddy is purchased by the miller from the farmer by the basket or bucket. Fifty baskets are equal to 1 metric ton (2,204.6 pounds). Depending upon the grade, the mills pay \$1.54 to \$2.00 per 100 pounds. The rice buyers are reported to pay farmers \$1.59 to \$1.70 per 100 pounds for rice originating near Bangkok, the area producing the highest quality, and \$1.13 to \$1.36 per 100 pounds in the north. ^{1/} Rice from the north must be transported a greater distance and the quality is lower than that of rice from the Bangkok area. Buyers are said to operate on a 10-percent cost of operation for the Bangkok area and 15 percent for rice from the north.

^{1/} Prices to farmers converted at open market rate of 20 bahts to the dollar.

Table 5. - Thailand: Export prices of rice, 1950 and 1951

Grade	1950		1951	
	Metric tons	100 pounds	Metric tons	100 pounds
	U. S. dollars	U. S. dollars	U. S. dollars	U. S. dollars
White Rice 5%.....	124.43	5.64	132.30	6.00
White or Glutinous Rice 10%.....	120.23	5.45	128.10	5.81
White or Glutinous Rice 15%.....	116.03	5.26	123.90	5.62
White or Glutinous Rice 20%.....	111.83	5.07	119.70	5.43
White or Glutinous Rice 25%.....	107.63	4.88	116.50	5.28
White or Glutinous Rice 35%.....	96.46	4.37	113.40	5.14
<u>Brokens</u>				
White Rice A-1 Super.....	95.03	4.31	92.12	4.18
White or Glutinous Rice				
A-1 Special.....	92.23	4.18	88.20	4.00
White or Glutinous Rice				
A-1 Ordinary.....	88.03	3.99	84.00	3.81
White Rice C-1 Special.....	76.83	3.48	73.92	3.35
White or Glutinous Rice				
C-1 Ordinary.....	74.03	3.36	71.12	3.23
White Rice C-3 Special.....	54.43	2.47	51.52	2.34
White or Glutinous Rice				
C-3 Ordinary.....	53.03	2.41	48.72	2.21
Bangkok Special				
(temporary grade) 1/.....	104.00	4.72	109.20	4.95

1/ Bangkok Special (temporary grade) is a mixture of equal parts of 20-percent broken and brokens A-1. This grade was considered necessary to get rid of slow-moving brokens.

Note: Prices for brokens have been reduced in 1951 while other prices have gone up.

Millers employ regular buyers with whom they deal every year, and they often advance funds to these buyers for their operations. They also employ "scouts" who frequent the waterfront where rice buyers and sometimes farmers bring their rice by boat. These scouts act as brokers or middlemen between the rice buyer or farmer and mill. The scout brings samples of paddy offered for sale to the miller, who makes an offer. If the offer is acceptable, the rice buyer or farmer will deliver his rice to the miller. Buyers also are speculators in rice and try to buy early when prices are low and deliver to the mills later in the season when prices rise.

The price at which millers sell their rice, both for domestic and export purposes, is set by the Government. The miller must obtain rice at a price that will allow him a profit, yet the farmers are reluctant to

release rice at these prices. The middleman, or rice buyer, who buys most of the rice from the grower and transports it to the mills, is therefore being squeezed for profit and it is increasingly difficult for him to operate.

The best grade of rice, 100 percent whole grain and 5, 10 and 15 percent broken, are the only grades of rice the Thai consume in Bangkok. Since domestic consumers are willing to pay a premium for this rice, much of the highest grade of milled rice in Thailand is consumed locally.

Theoretically, millers are required to report production to the Rice Office and state whether they wish to export or sell rice on the domestic market. In practice, they are free to sell on the local market without permits at whatever price they can get. But a great surplus of rice exists in Thailand, particularly in Bangkok where mills are concentrated, and therefore, most millers find it more profitable to report their rice for export.

Most of the rough rice reaches the mills by river or canal. It is transported in bulk in flat-bottom boats and is protected from the rain by an arched roof resembling to some extent that of a covered wagon. The boats vary in size; some are quite large, being about 40 feet long and 12 feet wide, with a capacity of 28 to 33 short tons. These boats are connected in a series by means of long rope lengths, perhaps 60 feet, and are towed by tugs. Often the boats are towed empty upstream where they are loaded and allowed to drift down the river with the current.

Milling

Milling capacity in Thailand is adequate. Some of the mills in the Bangkok area are large. Two mills have a capacity of 516 short tons of paddy per day, and 13 have a 220 to 476 ton capacity. The Thai Rice Company has 8 large mills in the Bangkok area with a combined capacity of 1,870 short tons per day. This company is owned 73 percent by cooperatives and 27 percent by private capital. Total milling capacity for the Bangkok-Thonburi area is placed at 5,500 short tons of paddy per day. From November to April the large mills that mill for the export trade operate on a 24-hour basis with four 6-hour shifts. Much of the equipment of the mills is comparatively old and not so efficient as new-model machinery. Most of the large mills are steam-operated, and hulls are used for fuel. The operators prefer this type of engine because its operating cost is less, fuel is readily available, it is easy to operate, and its repairs are few and easy to make.

Table 6. - Thailand: Location and number of mills

Location	Number
Ayutthaya (on Chao Phya River near Bangkok).....	61
Bangkok.....	49
Thonburi (on Chao Phya River opposite Bangkok).....	45
Chachoengsao.....	42
Suphan Buri.....	40
Nakhon Pathom.....	38
Rat Buri.....	30
Nakhon Sawan.....	29
Pratumtani.....	29
Chiengmai.....	28
Phichit.....	26
Samut Prakan.....	26
Cholburi.....	25
Sara Buri.....	23
Nakhon Si Thammarat.....	21
Other locations.....	353
Total.....	865

Source: Ministry of Commerce.

Milling is highly competitive, and profits are so small that some operators are faced with the closing of their mills. Two large mills in Bangkok were reported closed. The mills visited were operating only a few hours a day for lack of paddy, which is part of the problem. Mill stocks of paddy were exhausted, and operations depended on daily purchases which were sufficient for only a few hours' operation per day. Various reasons were advanced for this slow movement of paddy to the mills (mid-May).

1. Low water in the canals and rivers made transportation difficult and expensive.

2. The Rice Office was slow in making payments to the mills for exported rice. As a result some millers were short of funds for making cash advances to their buyers.

3. Labor is short. The high wages of the rubber plantations have attracted some laborers who normally help with rice transportation, and other laborers are employed in Government irrigation, highway, and rail-road projects.

4. Inflation. Government-development projects and military aid-matching funds contribute to inflation. Millers are unable to pay more to buyers for paddy, because the set price of milled rice has not been raised.

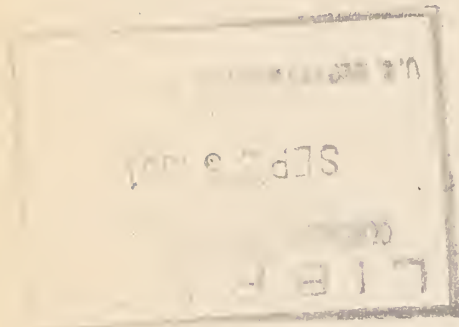
5. The farmers appear to be learning more about marketing conditions and are unwilling to sell all their rice at the first offer made. They were advised early in the year by radio broadcasts to sell their crop over the months so as to avoid cluttering the market and lowering prices. The farmers have now had 3 years of good crops and they are in good financial condition. They also believe that after 3 good years come 3 bad years, and some, at least, will probably keep a little more rice on hand than usual until they are sure that the 1951-52 crop will be good.

Paddy brought to the mills at the present time is a mixture of varieties with different-size kernels. It also contains a high percentage of red seeds and foreign material. In order to eliminate as much of the red rice as possible, the rice is overmilled. This yields a high percentage of broken and white bran. The poor quality of paddy received by mills and the present condition of the mills as a result of depreciation make volume production of high-quality milled rice impossible. This is mainly the result of the strong postwar world demand for rice regardless of quality, for high-quality rice was readily available in Thailand before the war.

The byproducts are hulls, cargo bran, and white bran. The cargo bran contains rice bran, small broken rice, and considerable hulls. The White bran consists of polish and a large amount of bran. So-called brewers' rice in Thailand is said not to be very good for brewing because of its high oil content. Brewers' rice does not contain over 1 percent oil; Thai broken rice contains 1.8 to 2 percent oil.

Rice byproducts are in demand for feed. The cargo bran is used as duck feed, and the white bran is used for feeding pigs. Both products sell for the same price. The prices of feed and rice byproducts are not under Government control. When sufficient bran is not available for feed, the local price of bran becomes higher than the export price of broken rice; therefore, broken rice is mixed with the bran for sale as feed on the local market.

At the present time a feed product is being put out by the mills which consists of finely ground hulls and brewers' rice, a product much in demand by duck growers. This is very interesting, since hulls are known to have little or no nutritive value. The ducks otherwise eat only of marine life and grow very fat. Perhaps the hulls supply the necessary bulk of grinding material, or fill some requirement in the duck's diet.





FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 8-51

September 24, 1951

WORLD RICE TRADE INCREASED IN 1950

International trade in rice increased 5 percent in 1950 from the preceding year, according to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Although world rice exports have risen steadily since World War II, trade in 1950 was only 47 percent of the prewar (1936) average. Total exports, including re-exports, are estimated at 9,400 million pounds in terms of milled rice compared with 8,900 million a year earlier, and an average of 20,000 million pounds during the prewar period.

Exporting countries: Trade increased in all continents except Africa and North America. For the first time since the war, the total rice exports of Asia exceeded imports. In fact, all continents were surplus in rice in 1950 except Europe. The principal trade gains occurred in Thailand, Brazil, and Italy, while larger shipments from Indochina, Ecuador, and the several minor exporting countries contributed to a larger total trade.

Seventy percent of the world exports were from the surplus countries of Asia. Trade movement from these nations totaled approximately 6,600 million pounds in terms of milled rice compared with 6,200 million in the year before. Thailand's exports showed a pronounced gain from the year before and were the largest since 1939; thus that country was the leading exporter of rice. Burma's exports, approximately the same as those of a year earlier, were again at only 40 percent of prewar. Indochina's, though slightly larger than in 1949, were only 8 percent of the former level.

Korea entered the export picture for the first time since World War II, and exported nearly 200 million pounds to Japan before the June invasion. These exports exceeded considerably the volume of rice that it was necessary to import later in 1950 as a result of the war. Taiwan's (Formosa) exports as reported officially were relatively small, especially compared with prewar levels.

North American was the next principal source for rice in 1950. Exports from the United States, the Western Hemisphere's largest exporter, and from Mexico, were down slightly from 1949. Brazil and Ecuador ranked as the hemisphere's next largest exporters. The increased trade of these countries as well as in minor exporting countries in South America raised that continent's total above the preceding year. Exports, however, were not so large as during the war and early postwar period.

RICE (in terms of milled): International trade,
average 1936-40, annual 1948-50

Continent and country	Average 1936-40		1948		1949 1/		1950 1/	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
British Honduras.....	-	2,764:	-	2,740:	-	1,760:	-	2,796
Canada.....	2,525:	50,958:	489:	39,286:	1,416:	50,129:	3,214:	59,860
Costa Rica.....	0:	2,053:	1,623:	1,100:	0:	4,581:	0:	3,978
El Salvador.....	2,641:	3:	4,127:	55:	5,322:	0:2/	18:2/	197
Guatemala.....	3/	75:	259:	1:	3/	2,222:	-	421
Honduras 4/.....	1:	2,591:	3,181:	30:	1,892:	1,821:	-	-
Mexico.....	18,555:	347:	63,049:	42:	90,869:	7:	-	2
Nicaragua.....	150:	518:	8,067:	1:	21,361:	-	60,554:	-
Panama.....	-	13,398:	15:	11,625:	0:	-	4,544:	-
United States.....	235,206:	20,534:	868,565:	2,845:	1,136,904:	167:	1,085,147:	29
Bahamas.....	-	3,809:	-	2,205:	-	4,168:	-	4,745
Barbados.....	-	20,675:	-	14,330:	-	2,011:	-	4,138
Cuba.....	60:	444,612:	-	517,715:	-	18,298:	-	-
Curaco NWI.....	-	2,571:	1,102:	6,173:	-	598,386:	-	640,874
Dominican Republic.....	165:	7,989:	506:	511:	2,030:	201:	-	-
Guadeloupe.....	-	15,467:	0:	12,802:	0:	14,493:	-	-
Haiti 5/.....	1:	2,359:	219:	826:	2/	1,213:	-	173
Jamaica.....	-	41,798:	-	17,472:	-	18,014:	-	-
Martinique.....	-	6,508:	-	3,509:	-	5,368:	-	-
Trinidad and Tobago.....	-	42,376:	-	27,229:	-	30,529:	-	-
Total 6/.....	259,775:	690,821:	951,202:	679,123:	1,259,794:	775,408:	1,153,482:	833,373
EUROPE								
Austria.....	5:2/	62,366:	29:	7,596:	-	32,793:	-	7,159
Belgium.....	29,249:	140,798:	2,491:	21,493:	0:	60,743:	157:	110,193
Czechoslovakia.....	3:	84,898:	-	-	326:	-	-	-
Denmark.....	45:	19,082:	0:	2,159:	-	2,868:	-	5,169
Ireland.....	0:	7,909:	-	-	-	7,682:	-	6,119
Finland.....	0:	31,723:	0:	44:	0:	13,219:	-	-
France.....	31,120:	1,239,561:	14:	75,733:	47:	93,880:	4,810:	184,066
Germany.....	38,288:	483,566:	-	61,729:	0:	104,559:	0:	275,822
Greece.....	0:	63,719:	-	16,957:	0:	46,932:	-	34,050
Hungary.....	0:	43,438:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy.....	335,639:	1,400:	44,990:	0:	348,439:	2,076:	493,203:	2/
Malta.....	0:	1,730:	-	1,696:	-	1,476:	-	-
Netherlands.....	187,911:	378,363:	33:	10,412:	1,429:	64,319:	58,069:	187,331
Norway.....	420:	11,157:	0:	430:	0:	9,070:	0:	-
Portugal.....	186:	16,641:	21,796:	15,712:	28:	12,482:	4:	31,352
Spain.....	11,695:2/	81,733:	17,775:	128:	10,384:	-	4,497:	-
Sweden.....	109:	33,374:	0:	1,464:	230:	9,323:	0:	46,625
Switzerland.....	14:	58,594:	0:	47,847:	197:	47,735:	1:	111,953
United Kingdom.....	12,202:	311,174:	325:	94,377:	-	117,139:	-	126,303
Total 6/.....	671,775:	3,275,669:	114,552:	399,034:	397,736:	679,849:	595,032:	1,194,755
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	2,403:2/	94,300:	-	-	-	-	-	-

Continued---

Continued---

RICE (in terms of milled): International trade,
average 1936-40, annual 1948-50

Continent and country	Average 1936-40		1948		1949 1/		1950 1/	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
ASIA								
Aden.....	42,015:	49,996:	7,055:	11,464:	6,393:	11,243:	-	-
Cyprus.....	0:	4,158:	-	4,078:	-	4,053:	-	-
Iran 8/.....	64,129:	1,252:	3,215:	40:9/	35,935:	-	-	-
Iraq.....	13,029:	84:	478:	-	1,901:	882:	-	-
Israel (Palestine).....	2,381:	41,020:	-	16,964:	-	13,799:	-	-
Syria and Lebanon.....	18:	37,646:	1,209:	47,059:	-	11,735:	-	48,501
Jordan.....	0:	5,838:	-	19,621:	-	11,905:	-	24,251
Saudi Arabia.....	-	-	-	33,069:	-	35,274:	-	44,092
Turkey.....	10:	156:	7:	565:	0:	1,259:	2/	388
British Borneo.....	7/	128,806:	-	70,547:	-	57,099:	-	61,729
Burma.....	6,535,742:	-	2,724,947:	-	2,632,452:	-	2,639,358:	-
Ceylon.....	7:	1,219,294:	2,042:	917,056:	2,025:	889,640:	2,680:	1,098,490
China.....	26,840:	870,994:	10,639:10/	850,000:	-	900,000:	-	236,000
Manchuria.....	10,485:7/	178,904:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taiwan 11/.....	1,426,661:	8,321:	450,000:	-	570,000:	-	60,185:	-
Indochina.....	3,232,998:	11,519:	433,413:	-	227,248:	-	267,215:	417
Hong Kong.....	602,314:	1,075,402:	-	248,959:	-	159,545:	-	-
India 12/.....	622,218:	3,726,688:	-	1,959,021:	-	1,719,659:	-	774,070
Japan 13/.....	231,632:13/	4,122,395:	-	123,998:	-	287,553:	15,471:	1,479,730
Korea 11/.....	2,367,393:	72,735:	-	170,208:	-	0:14/	197,630:	-
Malayan Federation.....	369,852:	1,746,239:	1,631:	1,009,847:	52,248:	1,161,113:	47,882:	1,024,428
Indonesia.....	73,737:	499,118:	772:	404,495:	784:	790,098:	1,866:	755,073
Pakistan.....	-	-	134,848:	12,096:	6,944:	44,800:	-	96,768
Philippines, Republic of.....	1,316:	130,886:	127,682:	264,797:	-	320,895:	21:	10,844
Portuguese India.....	62:	54,736:	-	24,251:	-	22,266:	-	39,683
Thailand.....	2,920,437:	-	1,790,633:	-	2,680,470:	-	3,269,969:	-
Total 6/.....	18,543,276:	13,993,564:	5,688,571:	6,194,735:	6,216,400:	6,450,818:	6,634,277:	6,144,514
SOUTH AMERICA								
Argentina.....	467:	52,286:	15/	15/	15/	15/	15/	15/
Bolivia.....	0:	18,371:	0:	20,005:	-	15,668:	-	-
Brazil.....	83,335:	0:	474,808:	-	2,322:	-	209,102:	-
British Guiana.....	34,296:	5:	39,267:	-	58,475:	-	65,094:	-
Chile.....	3:	24,107:	1,252:	-	18,226:	-	25,340:	-
Colombia.....	3:	29,614:	0:	3,845:	3,309:	166:	-	8,267
Ecuador.....	25,685:	4:	138,853:	-	68,122:	-	139,586:	-
French Guiana.....	0:	2,692:	-	1,892:	-	1,470:	-	-
Paraguay.....	0:	327:	0:	1:	143:	575:	992:	215
Peru.....	51:	44,742:	0:	12,218:	0:	15/	-	-
Surinam.....	10,654:	4:	4,374:	0:	21,378:	-	9,359:	-
Uruguay.....	3,775:	191:	26,974:	466:	8,990:	-	23,822:	-
Venezuela.....	0:	32,924:	-	22,003:	-	45,907:	-	60,803
Total 6/.....	158,269:	205,267:	685,528:	60,430:	182,065:	63,786:	473,301:	225,985

RICE (in terms of milled): International trade,
average 1936-40, annual 1948-50

Concluded---

Continent and country	Average 1936-40		1948		1949		1950	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
AFRICA								
Algeria.....	4,918:	65,224:	-	14,087:	-	3,373:	-	11,684
Belgian Congo.....	3,132:	611:	2,216:	-	8,250:	-	18,512:	40
Kenya and Uganda.....	827:	24,536:	2:	9,807:	14:	220:	-	-
Tanganyika.....	980:	21,805:	14,448:	0:	3,472:	3/	-	-
Zanzibar.....	436:	38,033:	4:	4,286:	-	2,425:	-	-
British Somaliland.....	- : 7/	28,587:	-	2,205:	-	2,205:	-	-
Gambia.....	-	11,245:	-	4,155:	-	1,764:	-	-
Cape Verde Islands.....	-	1,702:	-	1,543:	-	1,543:	-	-
Egypt.....	276,601:	4,150:	773,721:	2:	758,147:	3/	392,819:	191
Egyptian Sudan.....	252:	6,719:	0:	14,467:	0:	9,769:	0:	9,398
Italian Somaliland.....	0:	12,830:	-	220:	-	359:	-	-
French Equatorial Africa.....	-	6,524:	-	5,399:	-	2,941:	-	4,169
French Morocco.....	-	24,719:	-	8,377:	-	4,189:	-	7,716
French Cameroun.....	-	6,208:	-	1,389:	-	13:	-	12,613
French West Africa.....	534:	180,336:	-	103,938:	-	82,448:	1,984:	122,836
Liberia.....	- : 7/	5,556:	-	4,389:	0:	2,681:	0:	3,304
Libya.....	-	13,713:	-	5,071:	-	4,630:	-	-
Madagascar.....	15,942:	3,848:	1,034:	25,818:	1,339:	1,998:	5,524:	0
Mauritius.....	34:	123,091:	-	67,564:	-	71,879:	-	66,138
Mozambique.....	215:	18,341:	4,816:	3/	3,259:	3/	-	-
Nigeria.....	-	21,376:	36:	4:	-	-	-	-
Angola.....	3,422:	216:	11,065:	20:	19,694:	53:	6,254:	-
Portuguese Guinea.....	9,634:	0:	3,578:	-	-	-	-	-
Seo Tome and Principe.....	-	1,848:	-	4,758:	-	5,071:	-	-
Reunion.....	-	67,465:	-	60,382:	-	30,915:	-	34,200
Seychelles Islands.....	- : 7/	5,990:	-	3,086:	-	2,205:	-	-
Southern Rhodesia.....	75:	2,249:	247:	2,192:	193:	1,479:	-	-
Tunisia.....	-	45,418:	3/	5,308:	-	-	-	-
Union of South Africa.....	0:	139,021:	-	-	-	33,620:	-	1,280
Total 6/.....	318,624:	923,302:	811,312:	369,269:	795,248:	294,425:	431,481:	333,812
OCEANIA								
Australia 4/.....	29,025:	5,268:	62,684:	-	54,634:	-	-	-
New Guinea.....	- : 7/	21,840:	-	13,448:	-	12,566:	-	-
French Oceania.....	- : 7/	3,047:	-	2,835:	-	3,536:	-	1,911
New Caledonia.....	238:	7,183:	0:	7,566:	0:	4,125:	-	-
New Zealand.....	17:	8,542:	-	2,510:	-	4,850:	-	-
Western Samoa.....	-	1,314:	-	661:	-	289:	-	-
Papua.....	-	6,546:	-	7,937:	-	5,732:	-	-
Total 6/.....	29,285:	101,077:	63,000:	39,586:	55,000:	38,006:	75,000:	39,300

World total 6/..... 19,983,407: 19,284,000: 8,314,168: 7,792,291: 8,906,243: 8,327,292: 9,362,573: 8,831,749
 7/ Preliminary. 2/ January-November. 3/ Less than 500 pounds. 4/ July-June. 5/ October-September. 6/ Including countries not shown. 7/ Less than
 5-year average. 8/ March 21-March 20. 9/ Calendar year. 10/ Estimated on the basis of export data from exporting countries, and includes estimated shipments
 from Taiwan. 11/ Pre-war shipments to Japan from the Japanese colonies, Korea and Taiwan, comprised the principal trade of the 3 lands. 12/ April-
 March to 1940-41. Includes Pakistan to August 15, 1947. 13/ November-October. 14/ South Korea. 15/ Insignificant, if any.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments and reports of U.S. Foreign Service
 officers. Includes milled, broken, semi-milled unconverted and rough rice converted to terms of milled. Reexports are included in exports.

Egypt's exports were down nearly one-half from 1949, but were above the pre-war average. Italy's trade increased over the relatively large volume exported in 1949 and also was substantially above the prewar level. Although official trade data for Australia's 1950-51 fiscal year are not yet available, reports indicate an increase of as much as 30 percent from the preceding year.

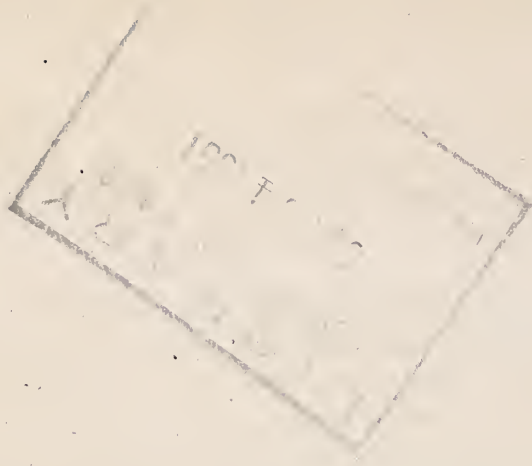
Importing countries: Japan in 1950 became the world's largest importer, taking rice from all over the world from such countries as Thailand, Burma, South Korea, China, and Manchuria in Asia, from the United States and Mexico in the Western Hemisphere, and from Egypt and Belgian Congo in Africa.

Imports into India, normally the leading importer, were the smallest in years, because of the availability of above-average domestic supplies. Ceylon and the Malayan Federation imported more than a billion pounds each, but nevertheless imports into these countries remained less than before the war. Indonesia, China, Pakistan, British Borneo, and Portuguese India in the Far East, as well as Syria and Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Jordan in the Middle East, took sizable quantities.

A sharp rise in the rice imports into European countries reflected the end of world rice allocations by the International Emergency Food Committee. Rice was imported in increased volume in Germany, the Netherlands, France, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, and Portugal. Europe's rice was obtained primarily from Italy, Thailand, Brazil, Egypt, Burma, and the United States.

World rice trade in 1951 and 1952: The world rice trade in 1951 is expected to show some increase from 1950, primarily in Asia's surplus countries, Thailand, Burma, and Indochina. Exports from Pakistan and China also are expected to raise the total trade. Exports from the other countries may be about the same as in 1950 or perhaps slightly larger.

Present prospects of the 1951-52 rice production in the exporting countries indicate the world rice trade of 1952 is not likely to show much, if any, improvement from 1951. The United States is harvesting a record crop and India currently expects a somewhat better outturn than last year's reduced harvest. It is still too early, however, to indicate prospective changes in most producing countries, particularly Asia. Carry-over stocks at the beginning of 1952 are expected to be at a relatively low level, so that trade in 1952 will be more dependent upon current production. By L. Thelma Willahan, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.



43
628



FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 9-51

December 10, 1951

WORLD RICE CROP NEAR 1950-51

A first estimate of the 1951-52 (August-July) world harvest of rough rice places the crop at only slightly below the 340,000 million pounds produced in 1950-51, according to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Planted acreages were again at last year's record level. Unfavorable weather, however, has again reduced yield prospects in some countries having large acreages. Since the main crop of several countries of Southeast Asia is harvested from December 1 on, weather can still have an important bearing on the outcome of the world crop.

Prospects indicate that in Asia, where 92 percent of the world crop is produced, the harvest will decline in 1951-52. Less rice may be produced in both South America and Africa as a result of reported decreases in acreage. Sharp increases in North America and Europe, however, have nearly offset these declines.

The forecast of 311,000 million pounds for Asia in 1951-52 is about 1 percent, or 2,700 million pounds, less than in the year before. The principal decline is indicated in China, and Japan had a moderate decrease in output. Production gains are in prospect in India, Indochina, Pakistan, and Taiwan, while the harvests of Burma, the Philippines, and Thailand are not expected to be greatly different from last year.

The weather in China reportedly was not so favorable for rice production as in 1950; thus the crop showed a substantial reduction from the good harvest of last year. India's planted acreage reportedly declined slightly. Prospects there at the outset of the season were for a crop considerably above last year's unusually low yield, but lack of rain in important producing areas again is causing some deterioration in rice output. Recent rains reportedly have broken the drought in South India, and further rains in the remainder of 1951 could result in a better harvest than in the last four bad years in the largest rice crop area of India. At present, it appears the total crop will be larger than last year's reduced outturn though below the level of other recent years.

Prospects in Japan during the growing period of 1951 were for another bumper rice crop, but unfavorable weather late in the season reduced the harvest. The Philippine acreage was as large as a year earlier, and thus far climatic conditions have been reported favorable for another good crop.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, averages 1935-36 to 1944-45, annual 1949-50 to 1951-52 1/

Continent and country	Acreage				Yield per acre				Production				
	Average		1950-51 2/ acres	1951-52 2/ acres	Average		1949-50 Pounds	1950-51 2/ Pounds	Average		1949-50 pounds	1950-51 2/ pounds	1951-52 2/ pounds
	1935-36 to	1940-41 to			1935-36 to	1940-41 to			1935-36 to	1940-41 to			
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1939-40	1944-45			1939-40	1944-45			
	acres	acres	acres	acres	Pounds	Pounds			Million pounds	Million pounds			
NORTH AMERICA													
El Salvador.....	26:	45:	31:	35:	1,392:	1,404:	1,365:	1,346:	36.2:	63.2:	42.3:	47.1:	-
Mexico.....	96:	155:	267:	267:	1,904:	1,547:	1,525:	1,184:	182.8:	239.8:	407.1:	316.0:	-
Panama.....	50: 3/	79:	141:	143:	1,440:	1,316:	1,234:	1,327:	72.0: 3/	104.0:	174.0:	189.7:	-
United States.....	1,004:	1,338:	1,840:	1,608:	2,234:	2,046:	2,215:	2,361:	2,243.3:	2,738.2:	4,074.7:	3,197.1:	4,456.4
Cuba.....	43:	69:	120:	126:	1,137:	1,035:	1,117:	1,325:	43.1:	71.4:	134.0:	167.0:	223.0
Dominican Republic.....	80: 3/	99:	108:	116:	1,065:	1,192:	1,220:	1,156:	85.2: 3/	118.0:	131.8:	148.4	148.4
Trinidad.....	10:	13:	25:	25:	1,350:	1,562:	2,424:	-	13.5:	20.1:	60.6:	-	-
Total.....	1,429:	1,967:	2,741:	2,530:	2,916:	-	-	-	2,802.9:	3,545.2:	5,241.3:	4,944.2:	5,751.5
EUROPE													
Bulgaria.....	19:	28:	-	-	2,463:	2,361:	-	-	46.8:	66.1:	-	-	-
France.....	1:	1:	20:	27:	1,400:	1,600:	2,480:	3,756:	1.4:	1.6:	49.6:	101.4:	115.0
Greece.....	5:	3:	19:	24:	1,840:	2,100:	2,463:	2,938:	2,292:	9.2:	46.8:	70.5:	110.0
Italy.....	362:	381:	326:	358:	4,677:	4,480:	4,565:	4,557:	1,692.9:	1,707.0:	1,488.1:	1,631.4:	1,850.0
Portugal.....	47:	59:	70:	85:	3,253:	2,895:	2,441:	3,506:	152.9:	170.8:	170.9:	298.0:	330.0
Spain.....	110:	119:	142:	143:	5,600:	4,387:	4,345:	4,615:	477.0:	522.0:	617.0:	660.9:	770.0
Total.....	553:	612:	654:	719:	864:	-	-	-	2,392.6:	2,507.8:	2,545.7:	2,918.3:	3,402.0
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	384:	-	-	-	3/	-	-	-	3/	730.1:	697.5:	-	-
ASIA													
Iran.....	534:	580:	544:	530:	476:	1,566:	1,499:	1,693:	836.0:	950.1:	815.7:	897.5:	787.0
Turkey.....	392:	431:	-	525:	-	1,283:	1,130:	-	503.0:	487.2:	485.0:	551.2:	-
Burma.....	78:	66:	66:	58:	71:	2,642:	2,665:	2,931:	206.1:	175.9:	192.3:	170.0:	224.7
China.....	12,671:	10,650:	9,300:	9,143:	9,400:	1,238:	1,226:	1,258:	15,683.3:	12,375.0:	11,400.0:	11,504.6:	11,800.0
Taiwan.....	43,853:	45,631:	45,700:	45,700:	45,500: 5/	2,259:	2,150:	2,265:	2,176: 5/	99,000.0:	98,100.0:	103,500.0:	99,000.0
Manchuria.....	1,606:	1,518:	1,889:	1,898:	1,925:	2,394:	2,061:	2,153:	3,845.3:	3,128.3:	3,825.5:	4,087.0:	4,200.0
India.....	782:	975:	1,200:	850:	890:	1,829:	1,585:	1,800:	1,430.4:	1,345.0:	800.0:	1,530.0:	1,430.0
Indochina 5/.....	14,306:	13,150:	12,200:	12,100:	12,600:	1,006:	996:	992:	14,396.0:	12,825.0:	12,150.0:	12,000.0:	12,500.0
Indian Union.....	62,590:	64,780:	75,028:	75,275:	12,600:	1,194:	1,137:	930:	74,740.0:	73,650.0:	77,285.1:	70,000.0:	-

ASIA (Continued)

Japan.....	7,862:	7,653:	7,880:	7,940:	7,850:	3,408:	3,267:	3,262:	3,330:	3,185:	26,793.1:	25,003.9:	25,701.6:	26,443.0:	25,000.0
Korea.....	3,838:	3,601: 7/	2,580:	-	-	2,256:	2,270:	2,649:	-	-	8,658.3:	8,176.0: 7/	6,834.5:	6,467.6:	-
Malayan Federation.....	745:	790:	931:	908:	-	1,634:	1,424:	1,662:	1,514:	-	1,217.1:	1,125.0:	1,546.9:	1,375.0:	-
Java and Madura.....	9,794:	9,310:	9,100:	9,650:	-	1,442:	1,385:	1,407:	1,480:	-	14,126.0:	12,892.6:	12,800.0:	14,280.0:	-
Pakistan.....	18,706:	20,605:	21,772:	22,401:	22,500: 8/	1,301:	1,227:	1,257:	1,230:	-	1,233: 8/	24,339.8:	25,274.3:	27,589.8:	27,740.0
Philippine Republic.....	4,852:	5,265:	5,471:	5,551:	5,550:	973:	940:	1,050:	1,031:	-	1,045:	4,719.5:	4,950.0:	5,721.0:	5,800.0
Thailand 9/.....	7,088:	8,727:	12,263:	13,083:	-	1,253:	1,249:	1,202:	1,143:	-	9,588.5:	10,900.0:	14,735.0:	14,950.7:	14,500.0
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.).....	201,904:	200,984:	214,407:	216,686:	215,743:	-	-	-	-	-	320,750.3:	302,524.4:	311,964.5:	313,367.4:	310,633.5
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina.....	52:	88:	107:	120:	-	2,692:	2,891:	2,689:	3,068:	-	140.0:	254.4:	287.7:	368.2:	-
Brazil.....	2,323:	3,042:	4,760:	4,500:	-	1,287:	1,409:	1,471:	1,467:	-	2,989.1:	4,285.8:	7,000.0:	6,600.0:	-
British Guiana.....	70:	83:	100:	-	-	2,289:	2,199:	2,416:	-	-	160.2:	182.5:	241.6:	-	-
Chile.....	13:	66:	66:	58:	-	3,515:	3,469:	2,808:	1,531:	-	45.7:	235.9:	185.3:	88.8:	-
Colombia.....	150:	205:	277:	350:	350:	943:	1,305:	1,653:	1,518:	-	141.4:	267.6:	457.8:	531.4:	550.0
Ecuador.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	146.0:	254.2:	211.5:	250.0:	-
Paraguay.....	5:	15:	22:	25:	-	1,760:	1,760:	1,805:	1,764:	-	8.8:	26.4:	39.7:	44.1:	-
Peru.....	107:	137:	101:	105:	-	1,897:	2,206:	2,388:	3,685:	-	203.0:	302.2:	241.2:	386.9:	-
Surinam.....	37:	35:	40:	44:	-	2,081:	2,306:	2,772:	2,500:	-	77.0:	80.7:	110.9:	110.0:	110.0
Uruguay.....	13:	13:	34:	35:	-	2,992:	2,862:	2,591:	2,823:	-	38.9:	37.2:	88.1:	98.8:	-
Venezuela.....	2:	11:	25:	40:	-	1,150:	1,127:	1,084:	1,378:	-	2.3:	12.4:	27.1:	55.1:	-
Total.....	2,899:	3,916:	5,738:	5,610:	5,627:	-	-	-	-	-	3,978.5:	5,964.6:	8,932.7:	8,837.6:	8,639.6
AFRICA															
Egypt.....	463:	600:	730:	727:	550:	3,233:	2,704:	3,527:	3,766:	3,091:	1,496.8:	1,622.2:	2,574.7:	2,738.2:	1,700.0
French West Africa.....	1,562:	1,860:	-	-	-	603:	598:	-	-	-	942.1:	1,111.5:	-	-	-
Madagascar.....	1,207:	1,227:	1,553:	1,538:	1,651:	1,157:	1,282:	1,097:	1,149:	1,184:	1,396.8:	1,572.8:	1,703.1:	1,767.6:	1,955.5
Sierra Leone.....	346:	-	-	-	-	1,192:	-	-	-	-	412.3:	-	-	-	-
Total.....	4,338:	5,423:	7,330:	7,147:	7,341:	-	-	-	-	-	4,925.6:	5,840.2:	8,202.4:	8,411.7:	7,773.6
OCEANIA															
Australia.....	23:	30:	36:	36:	38:	4,143:	3,703:	4,414:	4,833:	-	95.3:	111.1:	158.9:	174.0:	-
Fiji.....	10:	22:	-	-	-	1,940:	2,059:	-	-	-	19.4:	43.3:	-	-	-
Total.....	40:	72:	104:	103:	106:	-	-	-	-	-	121.7:	176.6:	251.0:	265.1:	261.3
World total.....	211,547:	213,364:	231,394:	233,220:	233,027:	-	-	-	-	-	335,701.7:	321,256.3:	337,987.6:	339,444.3:	337,387.5

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 5-year average. 4/ Average 1930-34. 5/ Average 1931-37. 6/ The area formerly known as French Indochina is now comprised of the Kingdom of Laos, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the State of Vietnam. 7/ South Korea only. In the 1935-39 period, production in this area averaged about 6,750 million pounds annually. 8/ Average 1936-37 to 1939-40. 9/ Official statistics of Thailand.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

Preliminary estimates of the rice harvest of the surplus area - Thailand, Burma, and Indochina - indicate that the total production is about the same, or exceeds slightly, the 38,500 million pounds of a year earlier. It is still too early in the season to predict the final outturn of these crops. The outlook for Thailand's per acre yield is about the same as a year ago. The acreage of Burma is believed to be slightly larger than in 1950-51, and prospects thus far have been for at least an average yield per acre. Some progress is under way in restoring the acreage of Cambodia and Vietnam (Cochinchina), the surplus area of Indochina, and production is expected to show a small gain from the preceding year. Pakistan's acreage and harvest reportedly are larger than the bumper crop of 1950-51.

Record crops in European countries reflect continued progress in the rice plantings of the postwar years. Rice output is estimated to have increased 17 percent from last year's record, and 42 percent from the prewar average harvests. Sizable acreage increases from 1950 occurred in all the countries of production - France (48 percent), Greece (100 percent), Italy (17 percent), Portugal (12 percent), and Spain (8 percent). Although unfavorable weather in Italy reduced the 1951 yield of rice per acre, the pronounced increase in acreage this year is expected to result in a crop larger than in 1950.

The North American harvest is 16 percent larger than a year earlier, and more than double the average production before the war. Rice output this year increased in nearly all countries, particularly the United States, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Panama, and Haiti. A tentative forecast of the South American acreage indicates that, although there are acreage fluctuations in some countries, the total rice acreage probably will approximate 1950-51. Should only average yields be harvested, the production there would be less than in 1950-51, when good crops were produced.

Africa's crop will be smaller, primarily because of a pronounced decrease in Egypt's output. The acreage declined substantially as a result of the reduction in the 1951 flow of the Nile River. Rice in several minor producing countries of Africa, however, continued to expand in acreage.

This is one of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

